

11-28-1996

## Casco Bay Weekly : 28 November 1996

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NOVEMBER 28, 1996 ■ VOL VIII, NO 48 ■ GREATER PORTLAND'S WEEKLY JOURNAL OF NEWS, ARTS AND OPINION ■ FREE

# Casco Bay Weekly

NOV 28, 1996





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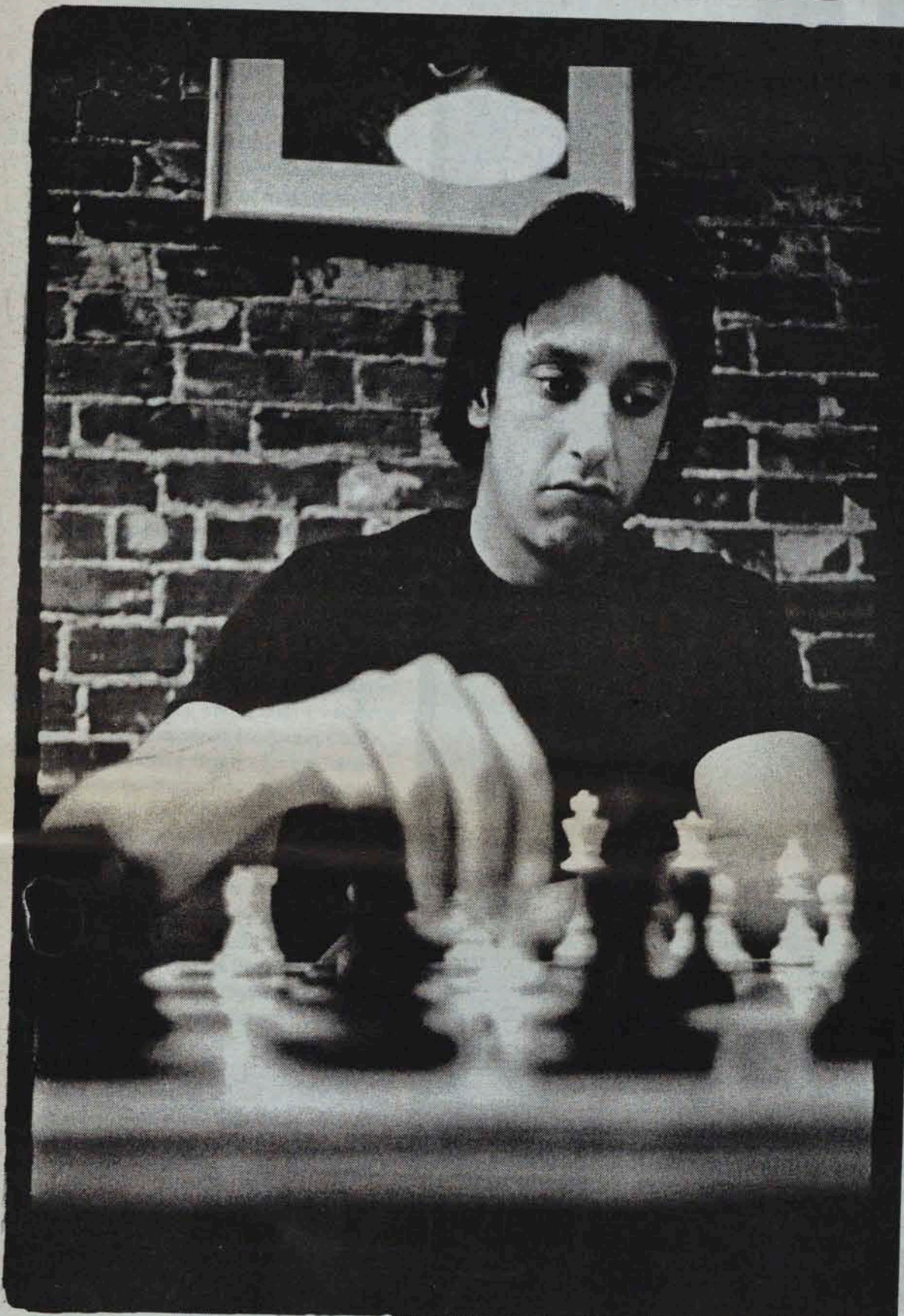
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# Talk A CONVERSATION WITH CHRIS KULIG



"Chess is the extreme skiing of the mind. It's a very violent game, but all the violence is cerebral."

Chris Kulig, 26, has been playing chess since he was four years old. He's now rated as a "candidate master," two notches below grand master. Kulig is also an artist, writer, guitar player and hazardous materials specialist.

**What turned you into a serious player?**

My dad had a book lying around, and I picked it up. It wasn't long before he wouldn't play me anymore. I started playing in tournaments in 1988. I placed second at the Maine State Championship [this year], but there are a number of stronger players who didn't show up. But I'd say I'm safely in the top 10 [in Maine].

**What's the strongest part of your game?**

I'm an attacking player, and I'm good with tactics, which is the hand-to-hand combat.

**What do you mean by hand-to-hand combat?**

It's the same as in warfare. A strategy is your general plan, and tactics are the means to achieve that end, the actual moves you have to make. You need to be able to see several moves ahead.

**How many moves ahead?**

In a simple position, I can see quite a few moves ahead. In fact, I can play blindfolded. I sit with my back to the board, and my opponent just calls off his moves, and I play in my head.

**Who's the toughest opponent you've ever faced?**

World champion Anatoly Karpov. He had a slight handicap in that he was playing 42 other people at the same time, but he still disposed of me pretty easily. But that was five years ago. I could give him a much better game now.

**Have you played a computer?**

I have, but I don't like it. Computers tend to score well against me because I can't intimidate them.

**What's your goal as a player?**

Making master is my smallest goal. Due to the enormous amount of work you have to put in to be a grand master, you pretty much have to devote your life to the game. I don't ever aspire to that. I have too many other interests.

**Is there anything about chess you don't like?**

There aren't many women who play the game. There are over 3,000 players in the United States who are rated higher than I am, but only 25 of them are women. You don't go to a chess tournament to meet women, although women can certainly show up at a chess tournament to meet men.

**What other games do you play?**

I play pool, cribbage, Scrabble. I like games where luck is held to a minimum. There's pretty much no luck in chess, and I like that.

Interview by Al Diamon;  
photo by Toney Harbert

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■ **Irvingwatch:** Irving Oil, the giant Canadian conglomerate that last year tried to buy South Portland, is taking a different tack in Concord, N.H. Irving sent letters to thousands of residents announcing it had bought their old oil companies and would now be serving them. While Irving purchased seven

dealers, it didn't limit its letters to patrons of those businesses. Instead, it sent the messages to customers of several companies that are still operating, prompting some of them to complain to the state attorney general about alleged illegal sales practices.

■ **Gannettwatch:** Guy Gannett Communications, which owns the *Portland Press Herald* and *Maine Sunday Telegram*, has reached agreement with its news staff union on a new two-year contract. The deal with the Newspaper Guild grants 3 percent annual raises. Paying for that may not be easy. Circulation figures through September show daily sales of the *Press Herald* down nearly 3 percent from last year, hovering just above 75,000. The *Sunday Telegram's* circulation fell over 9 percent, to 130,000.

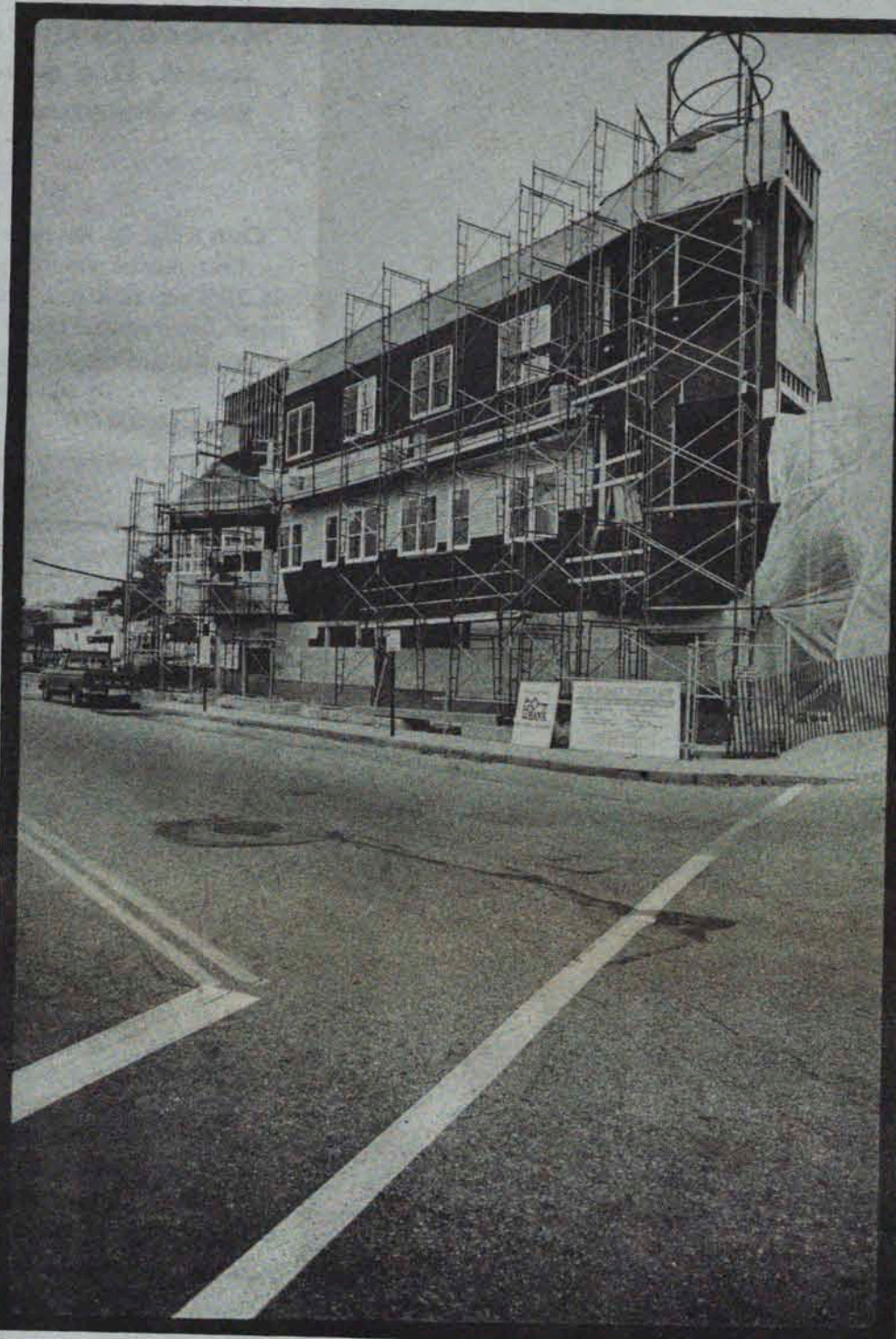
■ **Mayorwatch:** The group gathering signatures to force a referendum that could give Portland an elected mayor is close to having enough names. City Councilor Tom Kane and Portland Taxpayers Association president Bud Gallie say they have about 5,200 signatures, the number required, but will collect a few more to cover any disqualifications. If the petitions are approved Portlanders will vote in May on whether to form a charter commission, which could put the mayoral issue out to voters.

■ **Statewatch:** The State Theatre's ceiling has been pronounced safe by the city building inspector, but the legal atmosphere surrounding the concert venue is still toxic. Earlier reports indicated the ceiling might be in danger of falling, but the building's owners, Nick and Lola Kampf, hired an engineer who said there was no problem. In spite of the OK from the city, State of the Arts, the nonprofit group that rents the State, has no plans to end its legal struggles with the Kamfs or resume putting on shows at the theater. A spokesman said the group wasn't convinced the ceiling was actually safe, which can be translated to mean we won't be seeing Paul Anka in Portland anytime soon.

■ **Countywatch:** In an effort to balance the Cumberland County budget, the administration is proposing to cut the job of its only black employee. Moses Sebunya, who handled civil rights matters at the county jail, is scheduled to have his position eliminated under the new spending plan. Sebunya, who holds a masters degree, has been offered a job as a jail guard. Sebunya claims the changes are racially motivated, and the result of his outspoken criticism of jail administrators.

CBW

# CITY



The Family Workshop: job training, day-care, a health clinic and more, all under one roof  
PHOTO/ COLIN MALAKIE

## One-stop service An innovative social service center rises at the foot of Munjoy Hill

■ **JOSH WILLIAMSON**  
The half-finished building on the corner of Congress Street and Washington Avenue may look like a commonplace construction site. On the surface, there's nothing too special about this three-story shell at the foot of Munjoy Hill. But in six months' time, the completed building will open its doors as the Family Workshop Center, a unique combination of health, child care and community services. The center will house everything from a city-run health clinic to a workshop for middle school girls, from a parenting support group to a full-day preschool.

Linda Hogan, director of the East End

Children's Workshop, the child-care program moving to the site, sees the \$1.4 million project as a victory for Portlanders who depend on social services. "The beauty of the building is that it's one-stop shopping for the clients," Hogan said. "We'll be able to enhance our services by working together." A central reception area and computer network will coordinate schedules and resources among the groups.

According to John Hodge, assistant director of the Portland Housing Authority (PHA), which has been instrumental in securing funding for the center and will run a job-training program at the

site, the Family Workshop is the first attempt in the state to consolidate such diverse social services in one place. Service providers "have always wanted centralized locations," Hodge said. "We usually have to squeeze our programs into whatever spaces we can find. But now, finally, we were able to design the spaces around our programs. It's a model we think the state, and maybe the rest of the country, are looking at and will follow."

Thanks in large part to a \$1 million grant from the federal government, 10 different agencies currently scattered around the East End will move into the new building in June 1997. While each organization will continue to run its own programs independently, they will share resources, information and services under the umbrella of the Family Workshop, and each will have a representative on the Workshop's board of directors.

Shouting to be heard above the din of table saws and hammer blows, Hogan showed off a future city-run health clinic and a preschool classroom, spaces shaped now only by steel girders. Stepping around equipment, she climbed the stairs to where a PHA job training program will help welfare recipients get back to work. Hogan hardly seemed to notice the hard hats and construction debris, instead already envisioning the fully equipped computer lab and parent counseling spaces that will be there when the building is completed.

If a single mom enrolls in the job training program, she'll be able to leave her child downstairs in day-care. If the child gets sick, a doctor will be just an elevator ride away. And with the new center, Hodge said the mother will continue to have a "home base in the neighborhood" after finding work in the private sector, with child care and other support services.

The Family Workshop is going up at the site where an arson fire destroyed an apartment building four years ago, killing a child and four adults. After the city bought the lot, it remained a rubble-strewn reminder of the tragedy until construction began last March. Hogan thinks turning the site into a place where positive activities can occur will help revitalize the flagging Munjoy Hill neighborhood. "It will be the community's building," she said.

At the job training center, the PHA will try new approaches to vocational development. Hodge has started a project with Fleet Bank to prepare clients for its teller training program. PHA will teach "basic life skills" to those enrolled — everything from how to handle a job interview to math. After finishing the PHA training, participants will learn the

teller trade at the bank. Hodge wants to expand this public-private partnership to include other corporations, lessening his agency's dependency on tax dollars.

"With welfare reform, there is going to be a lot of people out there scrambling for employment," Hodge said. He has hired a permanent outreach coordinator to let people in the community know about opportunities in the new center.

That same welfare reform could leave the Family Workshop scrambling for cash when its current HUD funding cycle runs out in five years. Hodge anticipates reductions in federal funding, but hopes that the city will be able to pick up the slack.

City Manager Bob Ganley questions whether this will be possible. "I don't see that [program] as a business we would like to get into," Ganley said. "It's going to be a problem. The city is struggling to fund their traditional programs already." Ganley supported the \$50,000 Portland contribution to the project, but doesn't believe the city could afford to take over funding responsibility from the federal government.

"With the balanced budget issue, there is a lot of those agencies that are funded by federal programs now but will lose their funding," throughout the country, Ganley said. Foreseeing a "day of reckoning," Ganley said, "This is an issue that will be faced everywhere in the future." The federal government starts the programs, creating "a huge network of dependency out there," then tells local communities to pick up the tab, Ganley said.

But Hodge is optimistic that within five years, the new Family Workshop services will have proven their value to the city. "Hopefully by then we will have a program up and running that the community would want to pick up."

### South Portland

## More mass transit

South Portland's buses now run later and more often

South Portland bus riders no longer get stuck at the Maine Mall after an evening movie. Southern Maine Technical College (SMTCC) students can get home after night classes. On Nov. 18, South Portland's buses started a new schedule that has more and later trips to the mall and Willard Square.

Until the change, the last bus leaving the mall was at 6:45 p.m. Under the new system, riders can daily in the food court until 9:50 p.m. Bus service used to end in Willard Square near SMTCC at 5:40 p.m. Now it runs until 9:15 p.m. Over half the riders surveyed last year by the Greater Portland Council of Governments requested the later service.

The change also increased the number of bus trips each day. Buses will now

leave Willard Square nearly every half hour and the mall almost every 40 minutes. That adds 13 new trips each day.

The increased service required shifting some routes and hiring one new bus driver, but added just \$4,000 to the city's transportation budget. Much of the cost will be covered by increased fares and federal dollars.

South Portland Bus Service director Leroy Beaver said it was too early to tell if the increased service will attract more customers. But it has made one regular rider happier. "When I want to go to the mall at night, I can, whereas before I couldn't," said Kim Bryant, a South Portland resident who has cerebral palsy. Without a driver's license, Bryant takes the bus everywhere — to visit friends in Portland, to the movies and to Christmas shop. "I like [the increased service] a lot better," she said.

As usual, South Portland city councilors held sharply differing opinions on the new service. Councilor Susan Avery favored the change, saying it would help meet the needs of students and mall workers. "You can't keep telling your boss that you can't get there because of the bus," Avery said. "It's like saying the dog ate your homework."

She also expects the added service to improve ridership. "We don't have huge rider share on the bus line," she said, "but I think the problem has been because you can't depend on the bus."

Councilor Robert Fickett opposes the new schedule and its accompanying price tag. "I'd like to see the people get the service but not enough people use it," Fickett said. "We're subsidizing it."

As for Fickett's ideas for supplying public transportation, the conservative councilor said he'd like to return to using streetcars.

DAVID KOCIEMBA

## weird

The spirit of Thanksgiving arrived at the Manna food pantry in Bangor on Nov. 23 in a truck bearing the attacking-bear symbol of the Maine Militia (not to be confused with Carolyn Chute's 2nd Maine Militia). Camouflage-clad militia members unloaded 1,600 pounds of food for turkey-day dinners. Then they unloaded a public relations barrage on behalf of paramilitary groups. "This is a helping organization," militia state coordinator Mack Page told the *Bangor Daily News*, "not a subversive organization."

Then he added, "There's safety in numbers. There will never be a Waco in the state of Maine — it will not be tolerated. We are not an offensive organization; we are strictly defensive."

But Page admitted many people the militia asked to donate food refused, and many expressed fear or anger at the group. Before leaving the Manna site, he removed the militia insignia from the truck, no doubt a defensive measure.

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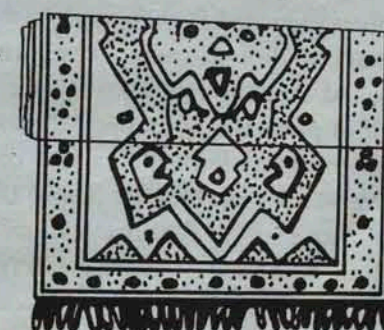
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- ☐ Checked out your snowblower?
- ☐ Warmed up the bedroom with a nice hand-hooked rug?
- ☐ Fixed the snow shovel handle?
- ☐ Rug for the front door?
- ☐ Tested your anti-freeze?
- ☐ Picked out a dhurrie for your daughter's room?
- ☐ Patched your parka?
- ☐ Finally bought that dining room rug?
- ☐ Chimney cleaned?
- ☐ Bought a wonderful new rug for the den?
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- ☐ Had your rugs cleaned?

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**Some of what the Production Department listened to while getting this week's paper out:**

The Hannibal World Music Sampler, "The Best of Both Worlds" • Sarah McLachlan, "fumbling towards ecstasy" • Simply Red, "Greatest Hits" • Motown, 25 #1 Hits From 25 Years, Vol. 1 • fulljef, "wack-ass tuba riff" • Enough Dave Matthews already



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## Life is peachy

It's said no one's liberty is safe when the legislature is in session, but over the next two years, women and gays have to worry about somewhat less loss of freedom than usual. Based on the results of the November election, the new state House and Senate will be the most favorably inclined toward abortion rights and gay rights in Maine history.

That's hardly an extravagant claim, since the Legislature has never been a shining beacon of leadership on either issue. It's been less than two decades since legislators overwhelmingly approved just about every restriction on abortion the Constitution would permit — and several it would not. It's been little more than 10 years since elected officials debating gay rights used terms such as "creepy crawlers" and "perverts" and made comparisons to bestiality — before routinely defeating the legislation by lopsided votes.

This year, a survey by Maine NOW and reports from various news organizations indicate a more enlightened attitude prevails. In the 151-member House, 66 representatives are on record supporting a woman's right to choose, 36 are opposed and 49 are undecided or have not expressed an opinion. Informed sources in the Legislature indicate about half of the no-position crowd is at least nominally pro-choice. In the 35-member state Senate, the abortion-rights bloc is even more dominant. Twenty-three senators claim to be pro-choice, eight are pro-life and four are undecided.

Unfortunately, the term "pro-choice" no longer has a precise meaning. Some legislators who use that label also support waiting periods, informed consent laws, parental consent legislation and a ban on late-term abortions. Many nominal pro-choicers oppose Medicaid funding of abortions for low-income women. In at least one case in the fall campaign, a candidate referred to himself as pro-choice even though he supported legal abortions only in cases of rape, incest or to save the life or health of the mother. Another legislative hopeful, when asked her position on abortion, launched into a spirited five-minute defense of a woman's right to control her own health without interference from the government. Once that tirade was completed, the candidate, showing no signs of cognitive dissonance, cheerfully endorsed a wide variety of government interference, the net result of which would have been to allow legal abortions only during periods of unusually high tides.

In spite of this sort of waffling, the chances new restrictions on choice will be enacted by the 118th Legislature are slim to none. While between 20 and 30 of the pro-choice House members and five to eight of the senators favor some limits on

abortions, there's no consensus on which limits. It's unlikely any particular restriction could muster anything close to a majority in either chamber.

As for gay rights, the new House supports them 56-35, with 60 members having yet to take a stand. Even if the mugwumps split 2-1 against the bill, it would still have enough backing to pass. In the Senate, support for civil rights is even stronger. Twenty-one senators favor the measure, four oppose it and 10 haven't publicly stated their positions. The last time the Legislature voted on gay rights, it cleared the House on a 72-60 vote and sailed through the Senate 21-13, only to be vetoed by then-governor John McKers-

nan. The numbers indicate more legislative support for the bill today, and Gov. Angus King has already promised to sign it. But as with abortion, the issue of gay rights becomes muddier when legislators are asked to consider ancillary questions. In this case the biggest and muddiest is same-sex marriage. Carolyn Cosby has almost certainly dredged up enough signatures to force a referendum on banning the practice in Maine. But state law allows the Legislature to avoid putting the matter out to a public vote by passing the bill itself. In the House, 33 members favor that position, 30 oppose it and 88 have not yet voiced an opinion. Among senators, eight oppose passing the ban, seven support it and 20 are unheard from as yet.

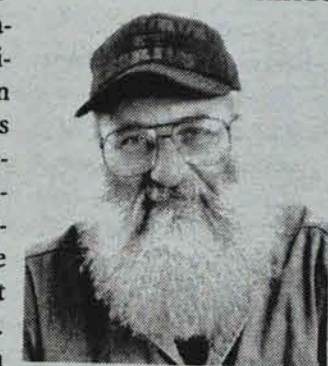
If, as expected, most of the no-position crowd eventually vote for the ban, the Legislature could finish its session next June having declared that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is wrong in areas of employment, housing, credit and public accommodation, but perfectly all right in matters of wedlock. Gay men and lesbians could find themselves granted full participation in almost any economic transaction, while being denied legal standing in their personal relations. "Compound for sins they are inclined to," Samuel Butler wrote in 1663, "By damning those they have no mind to."

**In my hour of darkness**

While speculation about his political future swirls, former U.S. Sen. George Mitchell has had to contend with a personal tragedy. According to friends of the couple, Mitchell and his wife Heather MacLachlan lost the baby they were expecting in February.

Wrote Virgil, *Sunt lacrimae rerum, et mentem mortalium tangunt*. You can reach this column by writing to CBW, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101, faxing 775-1615 or e-mailing [ishmaelia@aol.com](mailto:ishmaelia@aol.com).

### politics and other mistakes



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# winter issue



## Torn between two lovers

The author carries on an amorous quarrel with cross-country skiing while dallying with a new attraction — snowboarding. A tale of skinny skis, heartache, way cool decks, big air, puppy love and Scotch.

■ SCOTT SUTHERLAND

**T**he thing with love, or so the experts claim, is that you have to choose: commitment, or no commitment. You can't have it both ways.

I say: Says who? Right this very minute, in fact, I'm having it both ways, and I'm not a lesser person for it. Actually, it's making me a much happier, fuller person. This state of bliss, in case you were wondering, can be attributed to the hard-won knowledge that, come blizzards or blowflies, hell or high water, this winter I won't be made a fool of again. I'm a fully equipped, ready-to-shred, snow country funhog who's stoked to strap on his deck and go big.

Translation: I've dumped cross-country skiing and fallen in love with snowboarding. It could be that I'm simply getting an early jump on my mid-life crisis, wooing the next fresh and tasty trophy sport that comes sashaying my way, but I don't think so. I love winter, I love snow and I love playing in snow, and boarding, my reasoning tells me, will let me keep playing when the cursed, inevitable January thaw rolls around, leaving the hapless local Nordic centers forlorn and muddy. I'm trying not to think of it as two-timing my first love with a trendy fling; I'd prefer to think of snowboarding as something deep and long-lasting, or at the very least as a way to cover my bases. Hey, a man has his needs.

Truth be told, my long, tangled relationship with cross-country skiing continues, but I'm proceeding with caution. I've been hooked up with x-c since I was a kid, and I still love the feeling of buzzing through the winter woods on skinny skis. But x-c can be a bitch of a mistress; I've been hurt too many times, and I can no longer trust x-c the way I used to, body and soul.

### What, me bitter?

Take last season, for example. A year ago, in these very pages ("My Nordic problem," 11.23.95, for those of you keeping score at home), I waxed rhapsodic about the cross-country season ahead, and how I was fevered and giddy and practically incontinent with anticipation. "This is the time of year when my [Nordic] problem kicks into high gear," I blathered. "I start noodling with my skis. I listen to my weather radio for news of approaching blizzards.

I devour the mail-order catalogs that flout all the sexy new Nordic gear. I start wondering if this is the year I should buy a new one-piece racing suit, and whether I still look good in head-to-toe Lycra. The anticipation of it all is almost too much." I, Nordic geek, indeed.

Then came December — glorious, snowy December, when the snowbanks were head-high and the local cross-country centers sparkled like jewels in the Nordic firmament. I bought a season pass and hit the trails as often as I could, gliding through the sweet afternoon light while reveling in the delicious burn of oxygen debt. The snow was heaped everywhere, glinting orange and purple. The ski season seemed to stretch before me like an unending set of perfect parallel tracks.

Then came January — black, despairing January, with its sleet and rain and snow-devouring fog. I watched helplessly as, over the span of a single week, December's bounty became January's muddy atrocity. The last of the snow gave up the ghost in a wisp of water vapor, the cross-country centers closed and my days of darkness began in earnest. I moped around my apartment thinking black thoughts, thinking how my beloved sport had wronged me one too many times. Maybe it was time to quit trying to be a polypropylened winter funhog kind of guy, I mused. Maybe I'd start hanging out in coffee shops, passing my days in a pleasant haze of latte and biscotti. Besides, who needed winter sport when you had Japanimation and "The Larry Sanders Show"?

In a moment of levity, I tried writing a humorous bit about my predicament, organized as a series of letters to my former lover, Nordic skiing. I failed miserably. What began as lighthearted and jocular ended up as a hideous, vein-popping rant, full of bitterness, bile and self-pity. Actually, it was quite scary; I sounded like one of those creepy guys who can't get over a messy breakup, who cruises endlessly past his ex's apartment or calls in the middle of the night just to hang up. It had come to that: Cross-country skiing had made a drooling stalker out of me. I flung the piece aside and re-freshened my glass of Scotch. Outside, the drizzle continued.

Not long after, I was slouched on my couch, flipping numbly through a magazine, when my attention was suddenly riveted by a full-page ad. The photo was of a snowboarder ripping down the side of a mountain, his body planed out against the slope, a huge plume of snow arcing behind him. I could almost feel my DNA dance a little jig of recognition as something reawakened inside me: *Winter. Snow. Fun. Snowboarding. You. Now.* I'd been making noise about trying snowboarding for a couple of winters, after all, and now seemed as good a time as any. If I couldn't rely on the snow that fell in my own back yard, I'd go to where the snow was. To hell with Nordic.

Two weeks later, miraculously, I

found myself strapped to a rented snowboard and gliding, sort of, down the bunny slope at Mt. Abram. Sort of, because I'd glide for 10 feet, then tip over, get back up, glide a few more feet, then tip over again. My instructor, a local high school girl named Kris, kept telling me something about keeping my weight forward, but I ignored her. I was ready to jump on my deck and shred, dammit — I wanted to rail it, grab some big air and basically put the mountain in my pocket. I couldn't be bothered with pedestrian matters like where to keep my weight. I'd rediscovered winter, after all, and I was ready to live large. Now how do I stand up on this freakin' thing?

I spent most of the first day gliding and falling, gliding and falling.

**I'm trying not to think of it as two-timing my first love with a trendy fling; I'd prefer to think of snowboarding as something deep and long-lasting, or at the very least as a way to cover my bases. Hey, a man has his needs.**

Sometimes I'd actually glide for quite a ways, picking up a fair amount of speed before catching the entire edge of my deck and doing what's charitably described as a mackerel slap on the hard-packed snow. I fell on my face, I fell on my butt — I fell just about every time I got off the chairlift — I fell on everything, and hard. Lying on the snow, vision blurred by yet another skull-whanging slap, I'd watch other boarders effortlessly breeze by, their smooth, fluid turns kicking up sprays of powder as they went. Suddenly I was 10 years old again, and I wasn't going to be outdone by the big kids. I'd struggle to my feet, get my deck cruising again, and try to initiate a big, whomping turn. Mackerel slap. And so on down the mountain.

The next day, hurting a full-body hurt that not even a prodigious amount of *vin rouge* the night before could dull, I grimly strapped myself to my deck and prepared for another lesson, this time with a young instructor named John. The class consisted of myself, John and an 8-year-old named Zach, whose board was taller than he was. Zach would do his big, looping turns down the side of the hill, while I would execute a series of technically perfect mackerel slaps. "Keep your weight forward!" John would yell, and I'd think, "Yeah, right, like that's gonna solve anything," before splatting yet again.

By this time, I was practically in tears with frustration, thinking that maybe latte and Japanimation wasn't such a

bad way to pass a winter. "Weight forward!" John kept yelling, as I careened down the mountain. Finally, after hearing "weight forward!" for the hundredth time, I tried, in a fit of pique and self-loathing, to destroy myself — and my stupid notion that snowboarding could be the salvation of my winter identity — by throwing myself off the front of my deck. "You want weight forward," I thought, "I'll give you fucking weight forward," and gave a tremendous lunge — and carved a beauty of a turn. Stunned, I lunged a little less, and carved another one the other way. Up the hill, John clapped. My trial by fire was over. I'd become a snowboarder.

### The punchline, please

I spent the rest of the day cruising the slopes with my skiing wife, Amy. With each run, I felt more in control of my deck. I loved the speed and the gentle, rhythmic feeling of a long series of linked turns. Sometimes, usually inadvertently, I'd actually get up on the edge of the deck and *carve* — my holy grail. By the end of the day, after a final flawless run that ended with a long, on-the-money skidding stop right in front of the lodge, I knew I was hooked. "You're not having too much fun, are you?" my wife asked, with a big grin. She could see it on my face. I was in love, and I didn't care who knew it.

We went back to Mt. Abram a couple weeks later, and my improvement continued. I mastered getting off the chairlift, my turns became smoother and I reduced my mackerel slaps to about one per hour. My wife and I repeatedly skied our favorite trail, a sidewalk-wide affair that demanded a fair amount of turning proficiency, mostly without incident. (She claims I once tried to run her down, an assertion I deny.) The late-season snow was horrible, but I didn't care, love being blind and all.

This fall, still flush with the thrill of conquest, I bought myself the works — boots, bindings, deck. I brought it all home, strapped in, and sat there on my living room floor, wondering what kind of air I might be able to grab off the couch. I imagined cruising down a long, twisting run — and almost in the same instant imagined myself skiing *up* the same run, a pair of skinny, perfectly waxed cross-country skis dangling from my toes. *What the hell was this?* Wasn't this over? Hadn't I had enough of the promises and the heartache, and hadn't I told my old squeeze x-c to buzz off and have a nice life? But there it was. One thought led on to another: skiing uphill, skiing downhill, buzzing through the woods, races to enter, the one-piece Lycra suit to buy. Splayed on the floor, decked out in my shiny new gear like a tremendous man-child dork, I actually began to think that maybe it wouldn't be so bad to rekindle a little something on the side with x-c. I disgusted myself. I was a two-timer, twice over. It was all too appalling for words.

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Suddenly, an epiphany: *It's OK. You can love them both. You can have it both ways.* Freedom! Liberty! I could do a little boarding here, a little Nordic there, and never the twain need know. This winter love thing needn't be so all-consuming, the way it used to be for me; in the words of .38 Special, God love 'em, "Hold on loosely, but don't let go." Why be torn between two lovers when you can have them both? I love the pliancy of this polyamorous approach. Who knows how far it could go?

Come to think of it, I've had this thing about snowshoeing lately ...

*The only thing CBW arts and features editor Scott Sutherland won't do on snow is none of your business.*

## Smarten Up and Fatten Up

*Winter is God's way of  
telling you to stay inside  
and eat*

■ AL DIAMON

Some people plan to spend Maine's frigid months (September through June) with trendy pieces of molded plastic (no, not Barbie dolls) attached to

their feet in the mistaken belief this will grant them the supernatural ability to career off cliffs without suffering any of the consequences. They look forward to returning to work on Mondays with those fashionable frostbitten white spots all over their faces. They enjoy the attention they receive from wearing neck braces. They relish the prospect of maneuvering into the employee rest-rooms in their wheelchairs, sipping lunch through wired jaws and having the plates in their heads set off airport metal detectors.

Winter sports, it seems, are Mother Nature's way of weeding the unfit from the breeding stock.

In comparison to skiing, snowboarding, skating and trying to walk down the Deering Avenue hill after an ice storm, agreeing to manage Joe Brennan's next campaign appears sensible. After all, when Brennan loses, it's only your self-respect that gets mangled, something most snowboarders had to turn in before they were allowed to purchase the equipment.

Sales clerk: "You'll have to sign a form admitting you're an idiot."

Customer: "Cool."

Of course, the real reason one should avoid winter sports is not because it's likely to cost participants the use of their significant extremities. It's because God wants you to. There's considerable evidence the Lord didn't go to the trouble of creating lousy weather just to encourage double-digit increases in health insurance premiums. He did it to encourage his flock to stay indoors and engage in quiet reflection on the nature of existence. Also, it's a good time for

watching Japanese animated videos.

"The wind bloweth where it listeth," says the Book of John, "and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth ..."

Which explains why Joe Cupo hasn't got a clue about whether it'll snow this weekend.

God did not, however, intend for you to waste away while all this reflection was going on. He wants you to feed the body as well as the soul, and He does not expect you to manage that on a moldy rice cake and a couple glasses of stuff from the kitchen tap. Rice cakes aren't even mentioned in the Bible's list of kosher foods, and in the Book of Timothy, the big Guy says, "No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments."

Taking a somewhat-less-than-literal approach to the interpretation of that phrase, many leading theologians have concluded pious and observant souls recovering from a harrowing day on the slopes can safely turn in their water for wine (or the booze of their choice) without incurring the wrath of the Deity. This, they believe, is because God is off skiing in Vail.

### Chub out

As for food, the Lord wants you to eat hearty. That's why He made winter cold. At lower temperatures, your body burns more calories trying to stay warm. According to studies that have, undoubtedly, been conducted by highly paid government scientists, the average person needs about 2000 calories a day to maintain his or her body weight. But when the temperature drops below 50 degrees, people who look very similar to doctors report calorie-intake should be increased by 175, or about the amount found in a pint of beer, in order to

counteract the loss of body heat. Or possibly to make one feel better about the high price of heating oil. In fact (well, almost in fact), an additional 175 calories can be added to the daily diet for each 10-degree decline in the mercury.

Here's a sample diet for a chilly December day:

Breakfast: Bloody Mary (225 calories), two ham, egg and cheese biscuits (691 calories)

Lunch: two burritos (712 calories), two beers (350 calories), two Hostess Twinkies (400 calories)

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campaign appears  
sensible.**

Happy hour: two beers (350 calories), two shots of Jägermeister (300 calories), 85 potato chips (417 calories)

Dinner: can of beef stew (243 calories), two beers (350 calories), pint of ice cream (920 calories)

Nightcap: five beers (1050 calories), two shots of Jägermeister, no, make that three (450 calories), box of Fig Newtons (1135 calories)

This totals 7,593 calories, which comes out just right if the average temperature is 270 degrees below zero. Of course, it's unlikely to get that cold in Maine until sometime in January. But that's not really a problem for the health-conscious winter eater, who recognizes there's a simple alternative to cutting down on consumption.

Just get fat.

Our society has become obsessed with thinness as the key to health. We have forgotten what happens to thin people during times of famine. We have neglected the advantage fat folks have during huge wind storms. We don't seem to care if this nation becomes the laughingstock of the world sumo wrestling circuit.

Worst of all, in our rush toward hard bodies and soft brains, we have lost our gastronomic sense. What other explanation could account for food containing artificial fat, which causes intestinal problems; sugar substitutes, which cause cancer, impotence and bad breath; and zucchini, which causes the Ebola virus?

Another point: All these alleged edibles taste bad. What do you think God is trying to tell us?

### What's that smell in the kitchen?

Here are a few handy tips on wintertime cooking. Each is designed to require no more attention to detail than a Maine Yankee safety inspection.

**Appetizer.** Salami and cheese go fine with crackers. Or without. Mustard is OK, too.

In Europe, lard is considered a luxury item. Of course, in much of Europe, ice cubes, toilet paper and central heat are considered luxury items. Put some animal fat in a bowl (if you can't find real lard, Crisco tastes just as awful) and encourage guests to spread it on bread.

**Salads.** Ordinary salads suck because they're mostly made of vegetables. Fortunately, people believe anything on a bed of lettuce is a salad, so you can create the impression of serving veggies without having to deal with any of the squishy green things in the bottom of the refrigerator.

Chop leftover spaghetti into 1-inch lengths. Sprinkle on lettuce. Tell guests it's pasta salad. This might also work with old rice if you tell your fellow diners it's a recipe you picked up at a Portland Symphony Orchestra fundraiser. For a distinctive touch, throw some salami and cheese on top. Tell them it's pizza.

**Fish.** Did you know sea slugs are edible? Cut them in strips, fry lightly and serve in a sauce made from the liquid found in the neck glands. Did you know sea slugs had necks? Did you know the stuff in there is poisonous? Keep that in mind while developing your guest list. Goes well with salami and cheese. Or lard.

**Chicken.** The first rule for dealing with chicken is that almost anything can be put on a bird as long as you don't tell your guests what it is. Moldy jelly, old salad dressing, ketchup, peanut butter, beer, orange juice (particularly if it's fermented almost to the point of vinegar), non-dairy creamers, canned dog food and virtually any spice (except those little colored sprinkles for ice cream) can be combined in random fashion to create acceptable sauces. While it's in the oven, prepare some salami and cheese to put on it in case anyone complains.

**Meat.** Soak an ox brain in cold water, clean it by removing all the stringy things and throw it in boiling water for 15 minutes. Remove the skin and chop it to bits. Put the remains in a pie dish along with some ham and sliced tomatoes. Cover with a mixture of beaten eggs, cream, salt and pepper. Glop on a layer of bread crumbs. Bake for 30 minutes. If that doesn't taste interesting, add salami and cheese to taste.

**Dessert.** Arrange some Fig Newtons and Hostess Twinkies on a plate. Put some ice cream in dishes. Season everything with those little colored sprinkles. If anyone complains, hit them with a salami.

Too ordinary? We found a couple of recipes in the "Concise Encyclopedia of Gastronomy" that call for puddings and cakes made with generous portions of lard, an ingredient of which you may

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Dignity was started in 1969 by Father Pat Nidorf, an Augustinian priest who ministered to the lesbian and gay community in San Diego. He named the group Dignity because his goal was "to bring dignity" into the spiritual and social lives of gay Catholics. Here in Maine, Dignity has been active since the mid 1980's. With a volunteer priest, we celebrate the mass together once a week. Our goal is to be of service to one another and to the community as Christ taught us to be.

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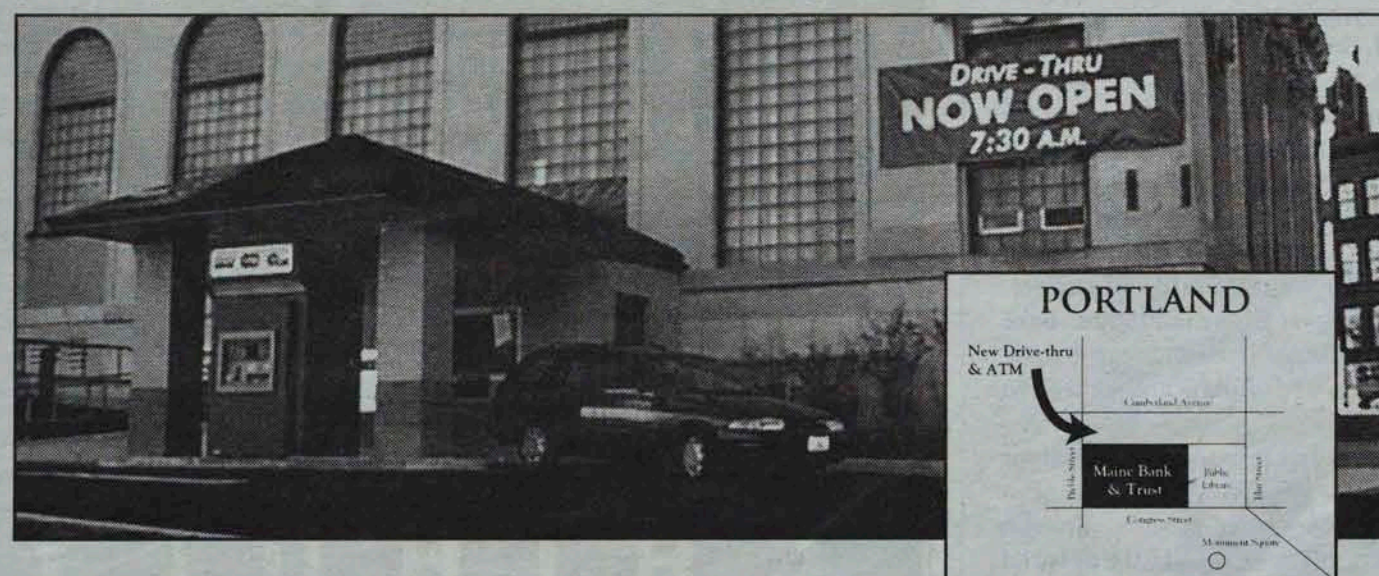
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have a fair amount among the leftovers. You'll also need lemon peel, raisins, sherry, rose extract, ground nutmeg and — no kidding — mace. If you're still interested, perhaps you'd like another helping of sea slug.

**Liquor.** All these suggestions work best if you're generous with the pre-meal cocktails and positively reckless with the after-dinner drinks. Here's a recipe that covers both occasions, doesn't cost much and has fooled people who ought to know better.

Pour a quart of club soda into a plastic bowl. Put it in the freezer until it forms a giant ice cube. Fill a punch bowl (borrow one from any married couple or most divorced women) with the cheapest champagne you can find, leaving just enough room to add the big ice cube. Decorate by dumping in a little fruit (limes and cherries for Christmas, black olives and oranges for Halloween, apples, blueberries and potatoes for the Fourth of July). Tell people it's Old Family Recipe Champagne Punch.

If there's any left over the next day, it goes well poured over sea slug, ox brains or chicken. Add a little salami and cheese and you've got a feast fit for a god. Assuming the deity you worship isn't one of those fussy ones.

*Al Diamon is eating out a lot this winter.*

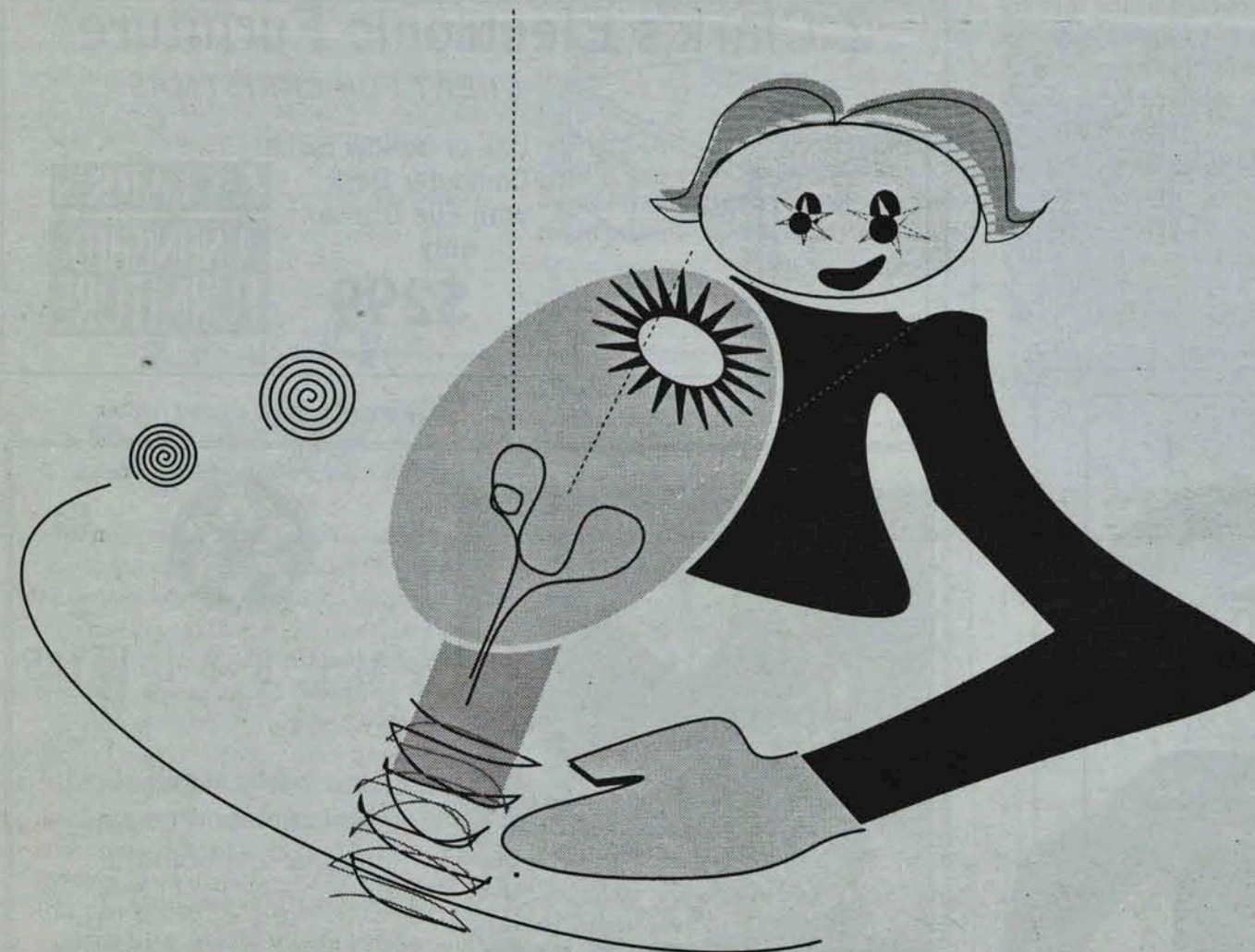
## SAD situation

Shedding a little  
light on the  
problem

■ LAURA CONAWAY

Throughout much of the winter, people in Greater Portland make do with as little as nine hours of sunlight per day. Darkness takes an emotional toll, especially in northern climates like Maine. Studies show only 1 percent of Floridians get winter-related depression (known as seasonal affective disorder, or SAD), whereas 10 percent of Alaskans hit the skids.

Zahira DuVall, executive director of Portland's Coalition for the Psychiatrically Labeled, says she's finding ways to cope with SAD and get through the long winter's night. "Eat bananas," she says, because they help your brain regulate its serotonin. "Stick tomatoes in your salad every day."



What's the worst time of winter for you?

February. It just seems like the darkest month. December's a crappy month for everybody because of Christmas. I don't think that's SAD-related. I think it just sucks for everybody. But in February, I'm just thinking, "Why can't it be March?"

What exactly do you feel when you get depressed?

When the days start getting shorter, it gets harder for me. My sleep pattern gets disturbed. It's harder for me to wake up and be awake.

I feel a lack of energy. I feel a sense of denseness and blackness. It's almost too low for emotion. It certainly feels hopeless at that point. This is never going to get better. Just rolling over feels like a gargantuan task.

You told me once the Coalition was going to take a trip to Skillin's Greenhouses.

It's a new idea to get the women's group out there, to get where it's warm and see the green. For me, it's more a matter of light. Even getting out and walking for five or 10 minutes a day really makes a difference.

It helps to have the windows open to light. The walls in my apartment are painted white — anything to maximize the light. You can buy full-spectrum light bulbs at pet stores.

Pet stores?

People who keep lizards and reptiles have found the reptiles need full-spectrum light. It lengthens their life span. They're called Vitalights.

I have a fluorescent fixture over my kitchen sink, so I slipped a Vitalight in there. When I'm standing there doing

dishes, it's overhead. If you're a mom with kids, you'll be doing enough dishes to get some benefit. Put it where you are. If you read the newspaper in the same place every day, put it there.

Do you think people slow down naturally in winter?

It's a respite period. People tend to be more introspective. Everything slows down. You eat more baked potatoes, whereas in summer you're doing the salad thing. Potatoes get to be a real comfort food. I hear a lot of people talking about that. In here and out of here, people are talking about potatoes.

## Body heat Nothing fuels passion quite like sub-zero weather

■ ZOË MILLER

For some ungodly reason, misguided people all over the world think summer is the season for love, when in reality that season is winter. Sure, summer goes hand in hand with leisure time, sunshine and skimpy clothing, but that's not the point. Just because long, hot days set the stage for drunken late-night cavorting and hooking up with shirtless babes does not mean summer is the prime time for love. Quite the contrary. Summer is the time for lust.

You may think that a suntan, some highlights in your hair and those open-heeled shoes make you more desirable, and you're probably right. But if what you see is what you get, then what's left to discover? There's no mystery to summer attraction. It's a shameless time of instant gratification. And believe me, having sustained 23 long winters in this four-seasoned state, I've got the authority to deem winter the unsung season of love.

While it's easy to fall into the trap of thinking winter will bring only isolation and frostbite, it should be just as easy to appreciate the coldest season in all its Cupidian glory. For starters, winter wooing is far superior to the courtship that happens in spring, summer and fall. The frigid weather lends itself to snuggling up next to someone. In summertime you're too damn sweaty to nuzzle and hold hands. But when the mercury plummets, there's no better way to fend off hypothermia than by asking that cute bundled babe at the skating rink to come share a cup of cocoa at your pad.

Beyond the higher-caliber courtship opportunities, winter love itself is of a superior breed. The romances of summer are merely flings compared to the sincere ardor winter encourages. You're pale, you're plump, you've probably been neglecting certain aspects of hygiene like shaving and moisturizing. What you look like during the five months of cold weather is probably a lot truer to the real you than your glamorous summer persona. If someone falls for you in this state, you know there's more between you than a mutual attraction for tanned skin.

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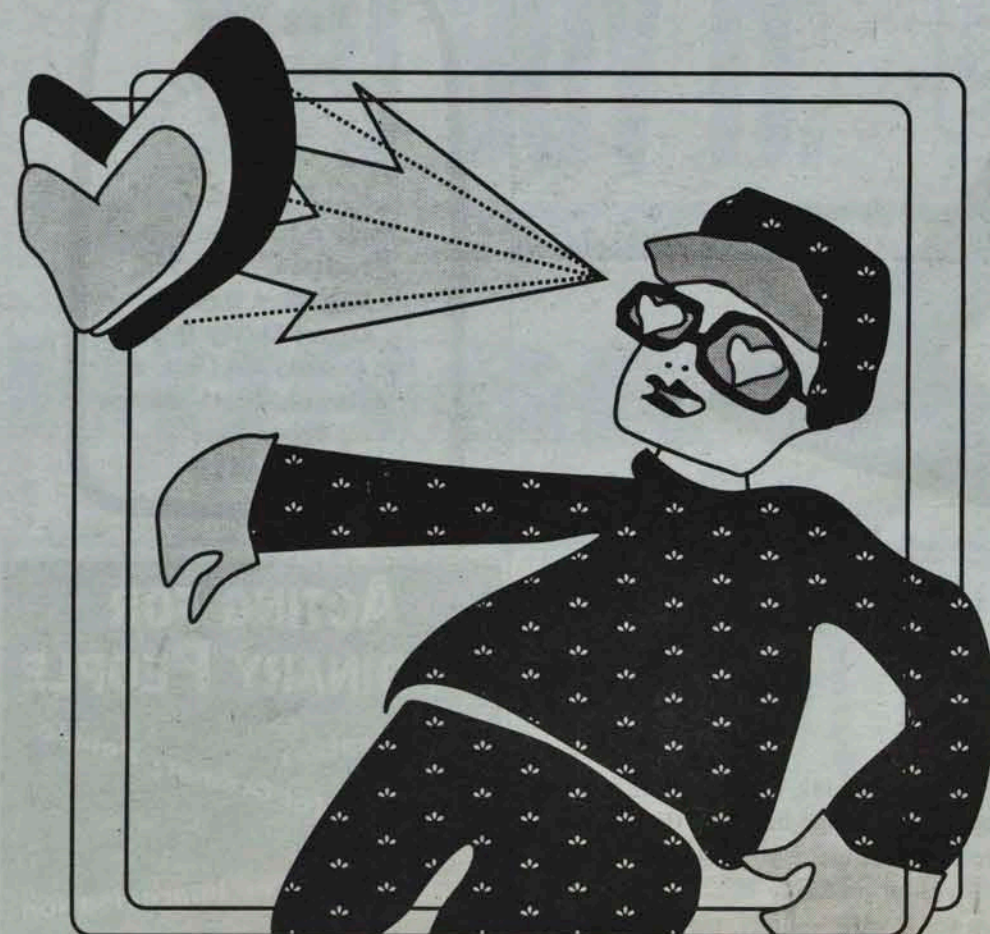
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# winter issue

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**What you look like during the five months of cold weather is probably a lot truer to the real you than your glamorous summer persona. If someone falls for you in this state, you know there's more between you than a mutual attraction for tanned skin.**

Which raises another important point. Some of us just don't tan. We may try to fake it by donning a bikini and slathering on the SPF 15, but when it comes down to it, we're better off in the shade. Summer fills us pale ones with a sense of inadequacy. We look around at the sun-kissed, bronze gods and goddesses and try to console ourselves with thoughts of how wrinkly they'll be in the year 2020.

But when the glacial weather arrives, the playing field is leveled by the short days and frosty winds. Nobody cares how tan you are anymore because it's too cold to show any skin anyway. And thank God, because if I see another tan and taut bare midriff I will lose my shit.

What ever happened to the mystery of the unrevealed? Clothing is one of winter's key benefits. The more bundled you are — the higher the mystery quotient. Think of it — if you fall in love with someone in the winter, you are guaranteed layers upon layers of clothing to peel off before you can discover the flesh beneath. It's like

unwrapping a gift: You don't know what you'll get, but each layer brings a new surprise.

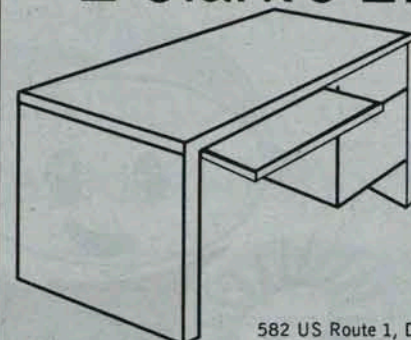
After courtship and mystery, what's most ideal about winter is that shut-in feeling it gives us. It's the "well, the weather outside is frightful, the fire is so delightful" factor. When a storm hits, people like to pretend they're stuck. It matters little that your car has chains on the tires or that you could easily walk where you need to go. People like to imagine that disaster has struck and all they can do is stay home and ride it out. And what better way to spend the disaster than embracing the warm body of that person you're so smitten with. It may be cold outside, but together you can generate plenty of body heat.

You may be on my side, but still wondering where you'll find the body you're supposed to be making all this heat with. Everyone stays home in the winter, right? Wrong. People stay home when it's storming, but there's no time for socializing like winter. What with Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas and New Year's, there's feasting, caroling, sledding, skating and lots and lots of carousing. Winter makes people feel like bringing you into their home and feeding you. Winter makes everyone at the local pub feel a little more neighborly.

So if you were lapsing into a state of depression at the prospect of staying home alone all winter watching the snow fall, then snap out of it. The best

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thing you could do for yourself is to strap on your moon boots, put on about 20 layers of clothing and find your way to the nearest social gathering. Then sit back and let winter work its magic.

Zoë Miller is already wearing four layers of clothes.

## Be a sport

Are you a supercool snowboard dude? A Telemark geek? A Nancy Kerrigan wannabe? Here's a listing of frosty recreational venues around Greater Portland and around the state.

Fees are weekend rates for adults. Rental prices are for one day's use of adult-sized ski boots, poles and skis.

**Acadia National Park** has 84.8 km of occasionally groomed carriage roads for cross-country skiers. Snowshoeing is also allowed throughout the park's 35,000 acres. Snowmobile trail loops around park and up Cadillac Mountain. Hours: 8 am-4:30 pm. Acadia National Park, Bar Harbor. 288-3338.

**Adult cross-country ski clinic** will be held Jan 23-Feb 8. Contact Yarmouth Community Services. 846-2406.

**Beech Ridge Farm Cross-country Ski Center** has 21 km of groomed and tracked trails on a 160-acre wooded farm for beginning and intermediate cross-country skiers. Weekly, lantern-lit night skiing, Fridays until 9 pm. Lessons available. Fee: \$10. Rentals: \$10. Hours: 9 am-dusk. 193 Beech Ridge Rd, Scarborough. 839-4098.

**The Bethel Inn Ski Touring Center** has 40 km of groomed and tracked trails for cross-country skiers of all skill levels. Lessons available. Heated outdoor swimming pool and ice skating on the town commons. Fee: \$11. Rentals: \$12. Hours: 9 am-4 pm weekdays, 8 am-4 pm weekends. Broad St, Bethel. 824-2175.

**Big Squaw Mountain** has 22 Alpine trails with four lifts to scale the 1,750-foot vertical drop. Snowboarders have access to all trails. Lessons available. Fee: \$20. Rentals: \$18. Hours: 9 am-4 pm. Rt 15, Greenville. 695-1000.

**The Birches cross-country ski area** has 48 km of groomed and tracked trails. Lessons available. Showshoeing available through 11,000 wooded acres. Guided snowmobile trips on International Trail System or Moosehead Trail. Hours: 8 am-4 pm. The Birches Rd, Rockwood. 534-7305.

**Camden Snow Bowl** has 11 Alpine trails with three lifts to climb the 950-foot vertical drop. Snowboarders may use all trails. Night skiing on six trails available Tues-Fri beginning at 4 pm. Toboggan chute with 400-foot vertical drop opens in January. Tubing available weekends and holidays at \$3/hour. Ice skating. Lessons available. Fee: \$25.

Rentals: \$18. Hours: 9 am-4 pm. Hosmer Pond Rd, Camden. 236-3438 (information) or 236-4418 (ski conditions).

**Carter's Farm Cross-country Ski Center** has 19.2 km of groomed and tracked trails over flat terrain in Oxford for beginning cross-country skiers. Its Bethel location has 64 km of groomed and tracked trails for cross-country skiers of all levels. Snowshoeing available at both locations. Fee: \$10. Rentals: \$10. Hours: 9 am-6 pm (Oxford), 9 am-5 pm (Bethel). Rt 26, Oxford. Middle Intervale Rd, Bethel. 539-4848.

**Cross-country skiing in Cumberland** is available at the occasionally groomed Valhalla Golf Course.

**Harris Farm Cross-country Ski Center** maintains 40 km of trails on 1,000 acres of meadows and woods. Thirty km are groomed for skating, 35 kilometers are tracked. There's also a toasty day lodge with an assortment of eats. Lessons and rentals available. Buzzell Road, Dayton 499-2678.

**Ice skating in Bath** is available at Dummer Street Pond and Goddards Pond, on the corner of High and Marshall streets. Warning sign (red for unsafe conditions, green for safe) posted. Hours: dawn-9 pm.

**Ice skating in Cumberland** is available behind the Cumberland Public Works on Drown Rd. Hours: dawn-9 pm.

**Ice skating in Portland** is available at the Portland Ice Arena. Free public skating Mon-Fri 11:45 am-1:15 pm and Sun 3-4:30 pm. 225 Park Ave, 774-8553. Or use the pond at Deering Oaks anytime. 874-8793 for conditions.

**Learn to ski and snowboard** Portland Parks and Recreation offers lessons for youth and teens, recreational skiing for youths and a race/bumps program for advanced skiers. Cost: \$15-\$182. Contact Ted Musgrave at 874-8793.

Key Bank is helping Mainers over 13 learn to ski and snowboard free. Novice skiers and boarders get rental equipment, a limited access lift ticket and a lesson. Participating areas are: Black Mountain, Camden Snow Bowl, Eaton Mountain, Lost Valley, New Hermon Mountain, Mt. Abram, Saddleback, Shawnee Peak, Sugarloaf, Sunday River, and Titcomb Mountain. Contact them for details.

**Lost Valley** has 24 km of groomed and tracked trail for cross-country skiers and 15 Alpine trails, with three lifts to climb the mountain's 240-foot vertical drop. Snowboarders have access to the entire mountain and a snowboard park. Lessons available. Fee: \$30. Rentals: \$20. Hours: 9 am-10 pm. Lost Valley Rd, Auburn. 784-1561. Ski lessons begin in January and continue for seven weeks for youths of all skill levels, ages 8-15. Space is limited. Contact your town recreation department.

**Mt. Abram** has 36 Alpine trails with five lifts to climb the 1,030-foot vertical

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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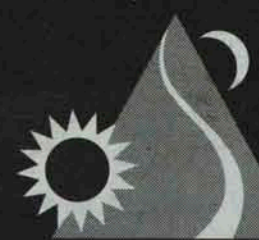
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## winter issue

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

drop. Night skiing will be added this season, with 12 trails and two lifts available Thurs-Sat until 9 pm. Snowboarding is available on all trails and at the snowboarding park's half pipe and playground. The White Wave Snow Tubing Park has a 600-foot hill with its own lift. Fee: \$29. Rentals: \$17 (snowboards available). Hours: 9 am-4 pm. Howe Hill Road, Locke Mills. 875-5003. Mount Abram offers skiing lessons to local youths of all skill levels beginning in January. Contact your town recreation department. Seven-week ski lessons begin in January for youths of all skills levels, ages 8-15. Space is limited. Contact your town's recreation department.

**Perfect Turn** will offer a five-week clinic at Sunday River for downhill skiers and snowboarders of all levels. Clinics available to kids in grades 7-12. Clinics are held 6:15 am-7:30 pm beginning Jan 11. All participants must attend Dec 12 orientation meeting. Space is limited. Fee: \$175 minimum. 443-8360.

**Perfect Turn Youth Race Program** is designed for the aggressive skier level six and above. Includes gate training at the Coca Cola Race Arena, video analysis, timed gate drills, free skiing skills and powder pack skiing. Available to kids in grades 7-12, clinics begin Jan 11 and are held 1:30-3 pm. All participants must attend Dec 12 orientation meeting. Space limited. Fee: \$200 minimum. 443-8360.

**Portland Winter Ski Program's** registration began Nov 25 — so there's no time to lose! Skiers and snowboarders of all skill levels in grades 2-6 can take a five-week clinic at Lost Valley Ski School Jan 8-Feb 5. Clinics are held every Wed from 3:30-8:45 pm. Fee: \$104 (\$139 with rentals). Teen skiers and snowboarders of all skill levels in grades 6-12 can take a five-week clinic at the Shawnee Peak Ski School. Clinics are held every Fri from 3:45-10:30 pm. Race/Bumps program introduces intermediate and expert skiers to running gates on a timed course and navigating moguls. Cost: \$121 (\$138 with rentals). Snowboarding costs \$161 (\$209 with lessons and rentals). Race/Bumps: \$151 (\$194 with rentals). Dec 9 registration deadline. 874-8793.

**Saddleback Mountain** has 41 Alpine trails, with five lifts to climb the 1,825-foot vertical drop, and 40 km of mostly wooded groomed cross-country trails, half of which are also tracked. Snowboarders have access to all Alpine trails and a new snowboarding park. Lessons available at ski school. Fee: \$32.

Rentals: \$16. Hours: 8:30 am-4 pm. Dallas Hill Road, Rangeley. 864-5671 (information) or 864-3380 (ski conditions).

**Sebago Lake State Park** has 7.2 km of trails, groomed after new snow, for cross-country skiers of beginner to intermediate level. Snowshoeing and snowboarding available in camping area. Fee: \$1 donation. Hours: daylight. Rt 302, Naples. 693-6231.

**Shawnee Peak** has 32 Alpine trails, primarily for intermediate to advanced skiers, with four lifts to climb the 1,300-foot vertical drop. Shawnee Peak is New England's largest night skiing facility, with 17 trails available six days a week. Lessons available. Snowboarders have access to the entire mountain and a snowboarding park. Fee: \$35. Rentals: \$17. Hours: 9 am-10 pm (weekdays), 8:30 am-10 pm (weekends). Mountain Rd, Bridgton. 647-8444.

**Ski-A-Bit** Located 30 minutes south of Portland, Ski-A-Bit maintains 40 km of tracked and groomed trails. Lessons and rentals available. Rt. 112, West Buxton 929-4824

**Smiling Hill Farm** has 30 km of groomed and tracked trails for beginning to expert cross-country skiers. Lighted headlamps are available for night skiing. Lessons available. Snowshoes and sleigh and hayrides are available for those who want to see all 500 wooded acres. Smiling Hill also has two ponds and a skating rink for ice skating. Hours: 8 am-5 pm. Fee: \$10. Rentals: \$10 (no ice skates). Rt 22, Westbrook. 775-4818.

**South Portland Winter Ski Trips** begin Dec 21 with a trip to Sunday River for first-time skiers or snowboarders. Twilight ski trip at Shawnee Peak is December 27. Kick off the new year with a Mt. Abram trip Jan 2 and celebrate Martin Luther King Day on the slopes of Sunday River. All trips leave South Portland Parks and Recreation Department at 7:30 am except Shawnee Peak trip, which leaves at 11 am. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult on all South Portland ski trips. 767-7651.

**Sugarloaf** has 107 Alpine trails, with 14 lifts (including a gondola) to climb the 2,820-foot vertical drop, and 85 km of groomed and tracked trails for cross-country skiers of all levels. Snowboarders have access to all trails and the largest half pipe in the country. Fee: \$35. Rentals: \$23. Hours: 9 am-4 pm (weekdays), 8:30 am-4 pm (weekends). Carrabassett Valley. 237-2000 (information) or 237-6809 (ski conditions).

**Sunday River** has 120 Alpine trails, with 16 lifts to climb the 2,340-foot vertical drop, and 75.2 km of groomed and tracked trails for cross-country skiers of all levels. Glade skiing available. Snowboarding available on all eight mountains and in snowboard park's two half pipes. Night snowboarding available on one trail from 5-10 pm. Lessons available. Fee: TBA. Rentals: \$25. Hours: 9 am-4 pm

(weekdays), 8 am-4 pm (weekends). Sunday River, Bethel. 824-3000 (information) or 824-6400 (ski conditions).

**Yarmouth outdoor ice skating** is available at the lighted ice rink on Main St by the Rte 1 Overpass. Call 846-2406 to check conditions.

**Yarmouth Ski Trips** for teens and adults to Sunday River will be held on January 3 and 20. Day ski trips to Shawnee Peak just for adults will begin Feb 1 and 14. Women-only ski trips will be offered Jan 25 to Sunday River or Feb 11 to Shawnee Peak. 846-2406.

## Set your heart racing

Need some inspiration to get your butt out on the slopes? A day at the races could do it.

### December

(17-18) **Men's North American FIS Racing** at Sunday River. Giant slalom and slalom events.

(17-22) **U.S. Snowboard Grand Prix** at Sugarloaf. Giant slalom and half pipe events, pitting 1998 U.S. Olympics hopefuls against boarders from major international circuits.

(21) **Snowboard Racing Series** at Lost Valley. Combined freestyle and slalom competition.

(22) **River Ride Series** at Sunday River. Freeride snowboard competition.

### January

(1) **13th Annual Carter's Last Stand** at Carter's Farm Country Ski Center. Five km classic and skating cross-country race.

**Annual J.P. Parisien Memorial Race** at Lost Valley. Youth racing clubs compete in MARA-sanctioned slalom event.

(2) **Budweiser Cup Race Series** begins at Lost Valley. Adult modified giant slalom competition.

(5) **Sam's/Mountain Dew Race Series** begins at Lost Valley. Children's giant slalom event.

**Family Festival** Five km cross-country race at Sugarloaf.

(7-8) **Federation Internationale du Ski (FIS) Telemark World Cup Festival** at Sunday River. The world's best skiers compete in the classic and giant slalom events.

(10-15) **Men's North American FIS Racing** downhill and super giant slalom events at Sugarloaf.

(11-12) **Maine Telemark Festival** at Mt. Abram. Clinics and family races.

(12) **Sam's/Mountain Dew Racing** at Lost Valley.

**United States Ski Association** Giant slalom competition at Saddleback.

**Loki's Loppet** at Troll Valley (778-3656). 10 km cross-country race.

\* (18) **Snowboard Racing** at Lost Valley.

(18-19) **Boarder Fest** at Sunday River. The East's biggest snowboard festival includes Freeride and Boarder-cross competitions.

(19) **River Ride Series** at Sunday River. Freeride snowboard competition.

**Sam's/Mountain Dew Racing** at Lost Valley.

(26) **Scandinavian Tour** at The Bethel Inn. 10 km cross-country race.

(31-Feb 2) **U.S. National Toboggan Championships** at Camden Snow Bowl.

### February

(2) **Flying Moose Classic** at Gould Academy (824-2778). 20 km and 5 km cross-country races.

**Sam's/Mountain Dew Racing** at Lost Valley.

(2-4) **Maine Special Olympics** at Sugarloaf. Slalom, giant slalom and downhill racing.

(8) **Stimilton Air & Style Snowboard Challenge** at Sunday River. Freeride snowboard competition and night Big Air contest.

**Snowboard Racing** at Lost Valley.

(9) **Igor Beaver Run** at Beech Ridge Farm Cross-country Ski Center. Five km cross-country race.

**Jimmy Heuga Toyota Ski Express** at Mt. Abram. Slalom competition.

**Sam's/Mountain Dew Racing** at Lost Valley.

(15) **Snowboard Boarder Cross** at Sugarloaf. Four boarders battle it out at a time on an obstacle course.

(16) **Sam's/Mountain Dew Racing** at Lost Valley.

**United States Ski Association** Giant Slalom competition at Saddleback.

(17-19) **High School Championships** Class B at Sugarloaf.

(17-21) **High School Championships** at Sunday River. Maine's best young skiers from Class A and C compete in slalom and giant slalom events.

(18) **Mountain Dew Vertical Ski Challenge** for all ages at Shawnee Peak. Alpine skiing.

(22) **Kineo Challenge** at The Birches Cross-country ski area. Ten km cross-country ski race.

**Russ Haggert Memorial Race** at Shawnee Peak. Alpine and Telemark skiers and snowboarders welcome.

**Bull Moose Mogul Challenge** at Lost Valley. Freestyle mogul skiing.

(23) **River Ride Series** at Sunday River. Judged carving snowboard competition.

(27) **Bud Cup Finals** at Lost Valley.

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## Thank you very much

Boy, are we thankful. Portland is a great place to live, and we live here. We can get pretty sentimental about it if we let ourselves contemplate all the things that we're thankful for. And getting sentimental is kind of fun. So here's this year's impulsive, arbitrary, utterly sentimental list of things we are thankful for:

That we have more daylight here than they do in northern Alaska  
That Portland is small enough to run into people you know on the street  
Live music at the Free Street Taverna

### SO NOTED



The view from the garage next to the Nickelodeon  
Used skates at Play It Again Sports  
The Movies on Exchange Street  
The deluxe Scrabble board at Java Joe's  
The 5th Maine Regiment building on Peaks Island  
The statue of the little water girl outside the library  
The gargoyle over the door of Oxford Building  
The duck house at Deering Oaks  
286-288 State Street  
The South Portland Green Belt  
The bike ride to Old Orchard Beach  
Short beer night at the Bear  
The elm tree in front of Sisters  
The copper beech trees near the museum and St. Luke's  
The garden at the corner of Cumberland and Mellen  
The gorgeous police decoy prostitutes in Parkside  
The stained glass windows in the State Street Church tower  
That there are two places to buy tofu in the West End

Internet access at the Portland Public Library  
The Sea Dogs  
The collection of Godzilla movies at Videoport  
The annual Christmas sale at the Fine Arts Theatre  
Gentle snowflakes  
Drunken men dancing to Greek music from a boombox in Congress Square at 2 in the afternoon  
Shoestring Theatre  
Impulse buying at Material Objects  
Sun Oriental Market  
Bear claws at Shop 'n Save  
Biscuits at Katahdin  
Chai lattes at Coffee By Design  
Saturday night breakfast at Becky's  
Sunday brunch at Café Uffa  
Onion bagels at Portland Greengrocer  
Cinnamon buns at Standard Baking  
Breakfast pudding at Zygot  
Betty Noyce's planning  
The furry creatures who like us no matter what: Harry, Hudson, Hops, Ruby, Simba, Jasper, Leo, Emily, Billie, Benny, Shyla and Mabel

CBW STAFF

*P.S. Stephen Kurth's "Drunk Boy" is absent because his editor forgot to tell him about the early deadline. He'll be back next week.*

## ESSAY

## She's leaving town An unapologetic snowbird

■ ELLEN MCALISTER

I don't care what anyone says. The fact of the matter is, winter in Portland sucks.

Still, I've stuck it out every time. Not just in Maine, but in Idaho and, unbelievably, in Alaska, I have ridden the wave of winter and lived to tell about it. I can do sub-zero. But this year, I'm not going to.

Undoubtedly, there are those among you who, when I say I am leaving, will immediately look down upon my pilgrimage south. Don't bother denying it. You'll see me as one of the weak, the faint of heart. Behind my back, you'll jeeringly whisper, "She's a snowbird."

Yes, I'm familiar with the routine. I've always been one of you, secure in the righteousness of my decision to bear the burden of this most demonic of seasons. You think you're the only ones entitled to the June, July and August — if they do, in fact, ever arrive. You claim you've earned your time in the sun, paid your dues. When I return, you'll see me as an unwanted interloper, only slightly higher on the food chain than a tourist.

To this argument, there is but one response and, frankly, that response is — SO FRIGGIN' WHAT?! You're jealous, plain and simple. Believe me, I know.

You say you can't afford to leave. You can't get time off from work. You've got obligations, responsibilities. Oh, mercy me, there are appointments to be kept. Say what you will, the reality is that, given a choice, there isn't one of you who wouldn't give up a valuable bodily appendage to do what I'm doing.

Make no mistake, I adore Portland, and I'll be back in April, ready to show off my tan lines. I dig the way this town looks and the way it feels. I groove on its people and its places and, most especially, on its little crevices of culture and its hidden nuances of character.

Since I decided to flee, however, my perspective on the city has changed. Each falling leaf does not foreshadow doom, the gradual loss of light isn't prompting violent behavior, the mere hint of a chilly night does not drive me to drink (although there are plenty of other reasons to). I'm actually enjoying the subtle shift from fall to winter. I'm embracing all that is to come, simply because I only have to take as much as I want. It has been a highly liberating experience.

And that, my compatriots, is precisely why it is imperative that we leave this place. Not just me but, all of us. We don't all have to take off at once. Portland needn't be a Brigadoon or an Ogunquit, disappearing into the mists sometime in late January, only to rise again when the tulips start to bloom. We can go in shifts. But there's no therapy better than a day spent blissfully asleep in the sun, a warm breeze caressing your belly. Imagine palm fronds rustling as you wander the beach in nothing more than a bathing suit or, if you're really lucky, nothing more than your birthday suit. Leave for your own sanity. Leave to save money on marriage counseling. Leave because there is nothing

that won't wait for you to return. Leave so I don't have to deal with a bunch of obnoxious, holier-than-thou members of the royal family in the court of Frosty the Snowman when I get back. Just go.

Still not convinced? Consider these factors: Two months a year, we are an entire city in a slump. Portland couples do not see each other completely naked from October through April. In February, we would burn our most valuable possessions to keep warm. We become pallid, pasty, and depressed from light deprivation. We would all starve if, for some reason, food shipments didn't make it to town in the non-growing season. We are ill-prepared for severe weather — a little hurricane, our city shuts down for days, a little snowfall and we can't even keep the streets plowed, much less the sidewalks. In short, the circumstance of winter is uncomfortable, inhospitable, and from the human perspective, even somewhat unnatural. It's also a situation that does not have to be accepted.

What? Thou doth protest? You love, love, love every minute of winter? You look forward to it? It's a playful romp, a cozy fire, a postcard, a sleigh ride, a wonderland? You say skiing alone makes up for the season's other monumental inconveniences? To you, and there surely can't be more than one of you, I must say, seek psychiatric help. After your session, pass the suntan lotion.

*Ellen McAlister is no dummy. She'll be in Florida before long.*

## WASP sting

G. Loring Harmon Jr.'s letter ("Sob story," 11.21.96) was full of the same warmed-over bullshit that's been foisted upon sentient beings since, well, probably since his ancestor arrived in New England in 1640.

Aside from his rant, which seems typical of non-"wacked-out left-wing bleeding heart liberals," allow me to address a couple of his other pearls of bile:

First of all, the "hostile savages" who greeted his great-great-great-great-great-great-great grandfather probably welcomed him with upheld hands (as many of the East Coast natives did as a sign of friendship) and saved his skinny white ass by sharing their food and agriculture methods with him and his shipmates. While Mr. Harmon's original ancestor may have lived peaceably with his saviors, his not-too-distant progeny probably thanked them by cheating and killing them, then stealing their land — which practice, of course, has continued to this day.

As for the "wild beasts and howling wilderness" that were around back in the days of the Anglo-Saxon Protestant invasion, well, they've pretty much taken care of that too, eh?

Ted Markow  
Brunswick

## Embracing the '80s

As I sit in my lava-lamp-illuminated living room on my velour couch in my pastel leg warmers watching "Pretty in Pink," I feel the need to voice my disdain at your recent article condemning Portland for being stuck in the '80s ("City of the '80s," 11.7.96). What, I ask, is wrong with the '80s? Okay, Reaganomics and

## CBW Q

**Why can't I find a sticker that says "I ♥ Portland" in Portland? What about "I ? Portland" sticker? At this point, I'd even settle for one that said "Portland, ME."**

We checked just ME on Congress Street, but they didn't have them. A Just ME clerk recommended a lobster shack in South Portland, but no luck there either. A highly unscientific search of Old Port tourist traps turned up nothing. The Visitor Information Center on Commercial Street didn't have them, but said they'd buy some from us if we found any. Then we called the chamber of commerce in Portland, Ore., but they were stickerless as well. We even called Made in Oregon and Destination Portland, desperately claiming to be Christmas shopping for our mother. They just laughed.

Got a burning question about life in Greater Portland? Let CBW's crack investigative squad sort it out for you. Those whose questions are selected for publication will receive a complimentary SPAM® refrigerator magnet. CBW Q, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101, or by fax: 775-1615.

## LETTERS



Casco Bay Weekly welcomes your letters. Please keep your thoughts to less than 300 words (longer letters may be edited for space reasons), and include your address and daytime phone number. Letters, Casco Bay Weekly, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101 or via e-mail: editor@cbw.maine.com.

the savings and loan scandal were harsh, but the '80s did give us a lot of great, big-haired, guitar bands.

Trends of the '90s — grunge, body-piercing, Doc Martens — are not the end-all, be-all of cool ... (oh sorry, a little '60s slip there). I just can't decide what decade I want to revolve my life around. Wait a minute, maybe I don't have to revolve my life around one decade and neither does Portland. I applaud Portland for being hip enough to support a diversity of styles. What a sad day it would be indeed if every restaurant in Portland used cilantro in the majority of its dishes and every band had a lead singer with a pierced facial feature and a goatee.

Can't we all just get together and "Wang Chung" tonight?

*N.E. McGuffie*  
N.E. McGuffie  
Portland

## Still licking the wounds

I can't help but respond to Mr. Ashley Lenartson's letter in the 10.24.96 issue of CBW. I fail to see how the members of Dead Eyes Emerson should be grateful to Mr. Philippe for anything when the simple truth is that he produced, distributed and sold copies of their album without a signed contract with the band members. (And for the record, it was 250 copies. Not 500 to 1,000.) This was a clear violation of the band's federally registered copyrights and registered, trademarked name.

Mr. Lenartson is right on one count. The record business is "very cutthroat" ... even on the a small-scale, local level. Any band that thinks they're going to "make it to the top" sure as hell better have enough business savvy to protect the rights to their original material at any and all levels. Don't give your music away to anyone.

*Rick Hautala*  
Rick Hautala  
Westbrook

(The writer is the parent of a member of Dead Eyes Emerson.)

## PRESS RELEASE

To: Business Editors, Sports Editors and Entertainment Editors

Hi!  
A press release and invitation follow. We'd like you to share a story with your audience.

It's about interactive entertainment.  
It's about Maine businesses working together.  
It's about added value product with the saving passed on to the consumer.  
It's about a local songwriter capturing the energy of Sea Dogs fans at a game.  
And it is great music.

The story angles are limitless.  
You'll be amazed at the different businesses who went out of their way to make this all happen.  
And you'll know in an instant it's a story to share ....

"Date w/ the Dogs" is a lot more than just a great new theme song though. Businesses both big and small have been working together on the project for nearly a year to prepare for the 1997 season. While some statistics make Maine look less than desirable for business, the network that banded together on the "Date w/ the Dogs," showed that Maine businesses know how to combine their efforts and create a great product. To date, over 20 different companies are supporting the campaign.

So go ahead and keep dancing to the Macarena for now, because next week you'll want to get in step with the "Date w/ the Dogs" ... and you'll be singing a completely different tune....

Come out and have some fun.  
Hear the music, see the product  
and get the whole story under one roof.  
You'll feel the energy  
and want to share the good news  
with your audience.

Whalephin Communications  
So. Portland

## OF THE WEEK



© PATRICK 1996



**H**oly variable venues: The long arm of Portland's troubled music venue situation reached out and touched someone in an unpleasant way last week. Mild-mannered Vermont-based hippie rockers Strangefolk were slated to appear at the State Street Church Dec. 7 — or at least thought they were — until the church nixed the deal Nov. 18. "They told us that they decided we weren't the kind of show they wanted to do," said Sam Ankerson, a representative for the band. "But we scheduled the show at the church a couple of weeks ago — it went out on our mailer and everything. At this point, we're just trying to control the damage."

## ear to the pavement



State Street did indeed make a tentative commitment to the band, said Sharon Crandell, State Street Church administrator, but never signed a contract agreeing to the show. "They called me cold from Vermont, asking if they could do a show here," Crandell said. "We asked them all along what kind of show they do, but they never really told us. [The band member I spoke with] said they did rock music that was kind of soft. I didn't know these guys, so I asked them to send me information about themselves when I sent them a contract. They never sent me anything."

Meanwhile, Crandell learned that the band had played earlier this fall at the Waterville Opera House. "[The opera house] told me that there were a lot of people at the show, that there was a lot of dancing," Crandell said. "They also told me that kids were going in and out all night, that there was drinking and drugs and kids out in the street late. The opera house thought we probably weren't the place for the band to play, and I agreed. We can't handle that kind of boisterous show; we're in a residential neighborhood, and we can't have kids going in and out of the church all night. Plus, this is an old building. I don't think it would stand up well to kids dancing on the pews."

Ankerson acknowledged that there were "six or so arrests outside the building" at the Waterville show, and that that "may have been the piece of info that was passed on [to State Street] that made them change their minds." He added that, while there was some trouble outside, inside everything was cool. "It's a very mellow crowd — there aren't any fights or anything," he said.

Convinced that the show wasn't right for the church — which lately has hosted sit-down acts as varied as Bela Fleck, Cowboy Junkies and Joshua Redman — Crandell pulled the plug. "I'm sympathetic," she said. "I know it's hard for these guys to find a place to play, without the State Theatre or Granny's being open. But we are a congregation, this is a house of worship and I'm not sure we're ready to accept the wear-and-tear. We're just not set up to do this."

The band scrambled, and finally landed a new venue for Dec. 7: Campus Center Gym at the University of New England in Biddeford, at 8 p.m. Tix: \$7, \$9 day of show, available at Bull Moose. 780-6424. CBW

# en Ge

"REINDEER GAMES" REVIEW ... THE MIGHTY, MIGHTY ZEFTRONS ... BRAND NEW BONEHEADS AND STUFF ... RONNIE DAWSON'S RETURN ... BUTT SHAKIN' WITH BEAU ... SCUD MOUNTAIN BOYS, MEET JOHN DOE



Pedal on, pedal on, pedal on for miles: The author making tracks on her favorite trail PHOTO/COLIN MALAKIE

## My singletrack, myself

### How long before development gobbles the last of the trails?

■ LAURA CONAWAY

Fifteen minutes north by bike from my house is downtown Portland, site of my job, my labor, my frustrations. Fifteen minutes by bike the other way is the Cape Elizabeth trail where I go to get my brains shook out.

The trail is the kind of singletrack that's fast becoming rare in Greater Portland. It isn't long — maybe two miles through the woods from end to end — but it connects to other paths, so it seems substantial. This is no useless network of spurs all leading to some teenage campfire spot, nor is it some crumbling, red clay powerline ride. Over ground now carpeted with yellow leaves, the loop's bristling 45-degree turns yield to climbs that crest over broken boulders and pause before plunging into streams. What begins as a shoulder-wide opening between two tall trees ends in a blind descent through a hayfield dotted with purple vetch and standing deer.

Eight months of the year I mountain-bike this trail almost daily. The other four months I ski it. When the first survey markers went up last fall, I feared the worst: Development. Houses. Trail closure. I was at least partly correct.

The newspapers said Juan Perez-Febles, a Cape Elizabeth resident,

intended to build a 95-home subdivision on the land. The maps showed his property right in the middle of my trail. I needed help. I needed an authority.

I went to see Maureen O'Meara, Cape Elizabeth town planner. She unfurled a survey on a long table; green and blue plots represented land protected and open to the public through town ownership or conservation easement. I saw more of those plots than I expected, but I couldn't pin down the location of my trail. From the map, though, one thing was clear: whenever I play, I trespass. "I'm becoming a felon," I said.

"You and the rest of the community," O'Meara replied. "People don't think about trail construction as a problem because trails are already out there. The problem is when the land they're on gets sold to developers. There are a tremendous number of trails out there that are a public resource for the community but have no protection whatsoever."

O'Meara explained Cape Elizabeth's ambitious program, now nearly complete, to build a "green belt" trail from Fort Williams to Crescent Beach. She told me the town requires developers to set aside a portion of each acre for public use. Juan Perez-Febles, she said, had generously agreed to leave 100 of his 206

acres open. On the rest, she explained, he would build. "As he develops this land, as those trails become house lots, you will no longer ride those trails," O'Meara said. "If you really want to keep these recreational corridors, then buy them." Buy them? With what? When I look at my paycheck, I see a small number followed by two zeros — hardly the kind of money that could save my trail.

Later, I looked at Juan Perez-Febles, casual and charming, standing in the middle of his woods. I asked him, naively, why he couldn't leave the land alone. "What am I going to do," he said, "give all this land to the people?" The native-born Cuban, sent to the United States by his parents after Castro began conscripting youth and seizing property, clapped my shoulder and laughed. "You guys are something else."

He walked me toward the edge of his land, closer and closer to my favorite spot. He pointed out where houses would stand, where old paths would be preserved and new ones put in. Then he stopped walking. We had reached his property line, and my trail — my beloved trail — was on the other side. Some of it was privately owned, but some was on conservation land. Hallelujah.

Bikers and skiers aren't often so

blessed. People in Greater Portland have long taken for granted their ability to disappear into the local woods without paying for trail access, but for years now the clicking of bike gears and swooshing of skis have mixed with the banging of hammers and screaming of saws. Development has chewed through local trails like a frat boy downing a midnight snack. New housing threatens time-honored paths in Westbrook and at Pride's Corner. Miles of routes have been lost in Falmouth, Yarmouth and Cumberland, plowed under by subdivisions. One day's announcement of a land trust in Scarborough is matched the next by news of new construction in South Portland. Little by little, access is lost.

"One day you're riding down the trail," said Jamie Wright, owner of Gorham Bike & Ski, "and the next day they're putting up a house. Even here in Gorham they build about a hundred houses a year. That's a lot of homes."

"Trail closure's been going on for years," Wright added. "It's one of those things that's tough to discuss, because the bikers and skiers are not in the right. If they're riding over somebody's land, and it's private property, they don't really have any say."

Audrey Gerry would like to change that situation. As a leader of the nonprofit group Gorham Trails, Gerry attempts

the next best thing to buying property: She talks landowners into letting the public use part of their acreage, free of charge, forever. "There seems to be, especially in New England, a thing that says only if you have money are you supposed to have access to the environment," she said. "We're trying to overcome that. We're trying to bring back the idea that when these towns were built, they were laid out for all the inhabitants. Everything that breathes should have access to the land."

Working on a budget of about \$4,000 a year, Gerry said, Gorham Trails has acquired over 150 acres of land for public use under conservation easements since 1992. Much of that land, she explained, has come from developers who wished to stay below a 20-acre federal guideline for subdivisions. Gerry said the group has been so successful in getting trails that now it desperately needs volunteers to mark and maintain its routes. Development may be destroying trails, but it's also giving activists like Gerry a chance to formalize access that once was threatened every day.

"Even if developers are going to build a subdivision, they could leave a strip around it that stays open for people to use," she said. "We have to protect some things for our grandkids, because we're not going to be here that long." CBW

## preview

### Focus on AIDS



From "The Faces of AIDS," by Will Faller, at the PMA

Jan. 5, is a powerful collection of portraits of the residents of "Magic Valley," a poverty-stricken community on the Mexican-American border that has recently seen a dramatic increase in AIDS cases. As part of its World AIDS Day events, the PMA will hold Design Aid '96, a silent auction of more than 30 holiday wreaths that will benefit Pets Make Wonderful Support (PAWS) and the Maine AIDS Alliance. At USM, "Being Heard: The Strength, Courage and AIDS of Winnie MacDonald," a collection of photographs by Jim Daniels, shows at the Area Gallery in Portland through Dec. 13 and details one woman's experience with the disease. A reception with the artist will be held at the Area Gallery Dec. 1 at 5 p.m.; at 6 p.m., Daniels, along with USM art galleries director Karen Kitchen, will talk about AIDS and photography.

■ ZOË MILLER

For information on PMA events, contact the museum at 775-6148. For information on USM Area Gallery events, call 780-5409.

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*THE AWARD-WINNING  
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Returns Dec. 5  
Thursdays 8pm  
\$10/\$8  
Ballet  
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• Dance for Actors  
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## Carmella Duprix Presents: The 1st Annual Santa's Sack of Dreams

Give a gift and make the dreams of a child affected by AIDS come true this Christmas. Always remembering two words: **Love & Compassion**

Join us at **UNDERGROUND** for this special show  
3 Spring Street, Portland • 207 773 3315

**December 8, 1996 10:30pm Sharp**  
entry \$3.00 or Bring a new unwrapped gift.

Co-Hosted by: Carmella Duprix & Ashley Nason  
along with: Liza Williams, Krystie Leigh, Desta Toot,  
Susie Q-Tip, Demandra, Miss Gay Portland Shivan,  
Valine Royale Collins, Tatiana  
and a special New Comers performance by: Shanese

**DAD HABITS**  
LOVE & ROCK  
wed 11/27  
**DANCE PARTY**  
No cover before 11pm  
9pm-3am / 21+ 9-11:15  
all ages 1:15-3

**TRIP**  
3rd Anniversary Show  
w/ special guests  
Rotors to Rust  
& Neon Jesus  
21+ 8pm • \$5 • \$1 Harpoon Night

wed. 12.4  
**John Doe** (formerly of X)  
w/ Scud Mountain Boys  
21+ 8pm • \$7 adv/\$9 day of

**Bad Habits**  
10 Exchange St. is the box office for all shows.  
No service charges apply.

**zootz dance schedule**  
**FUNERAL** A GOTHIC INDUSTRIAL  
nara edged alternative dance night  
21+ 9-1am  
\$1 drafts & \$2 wells 9-11pm

**BOUNCE!**  
DJ Larre Love & Guest DJs  
from the east coast  
& beyond  
NO COVER BEFORE 11PM  
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**DECADES OF DANCE**  
BEST OF THE 70S, 80S & 90S  
NO COVER BEFORE 11PM • 9pm-3am •  
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**31 Forest Ave, Portland • 773-8187**  
**The Rec-Room,**  
29 1/2 Forest Ave.  
is open 7 nights from 8pm-1am.  
NEVER A COVER!

**Stone Coast**  
**SMOKING ROOM**  
**Fri. PERCY HILL**  
w/ driving blind  
**Sat. RUSTIC OVERTONES**  
W/VOLK

**Sun. Live Jazz 11-2**  
**Brunch Buffet**  
**Tues. Heavens to**  
**Dollar Night Murgatroid**

**Fri. Rippopotamus**  
**Dec. 6**  
**Sat. Upsetters**  
**Dec. 7**

**Friday the 13th**  
**BIM**  
**SKALA**  
**BIM**

**Sat. MONSTER MIKE**  
**14**  
**WELCH**

**UPCOMING**  
**Dec. 21 Heavy Metal Horns**  
**Dec. 31 Chucklehead**

**THE SMOKIN'EST JOINT IN TOWN**  
**773-BEER**

## clubs



### Prime cut

At long last, the deliciously mellow **SCUD MOUNTAIN BOYS** return to our fair city. While country is probably the best genre to describe the band's sound, the Scud Mountain Boys are no country-western outfit; they just happen to borrow what's good from country music and add it to their distinctive, understated folk rock. The lonely, bluesy, dreamy songs on "Massachusetts," the band's fifth CD, are cathartic in a way rivaled only by early Cowboy Junkies. Dec 4 at Zootz, 31 Forest Ave, Portland, at 8 pm (21+). The Boys open for former X frontman, John Doe. Tex: \$9 (\$7 advance). 773-8187.

### wednesday 27

**The Big Easy**  
Red Light Revue  
(blues/R&B), 416 Fore St,  
Portland. 780-1207.

**Free Street Taverna**  
Diesel Doug's Rig Rock  
Revue, 128 Free St,  
Portland. 780-1114.

**Geno's**  
Men's Night, 13 Brown St,  
Portland. 772-7891.

**Gritty McDuff's**  
C-Spot Grove, 396 Fore St,  
Portland. 772-2739.

**The Moon**  
Generation X (DJ Jayce),  
427 Fore St, Portland.  
772-1983.

**Old Port Tavern**  
Concert Karaoke with DJ  
Greg Powers, 11 Moulton St,  
Portland. 774-0444.

**Raoul's**  
Rockabilly Rumble with  
Ronnie Dawson, King  
Memphis and Nick "Wild  
Child" Curran & the  
Sideburns, 865 Forest  
Ave, Portland. 773-6886.

**Stone Coast**  
Brewing Company  
Broken Men (Dead covers)  
and The Kind (rock), 14 York  
St, Portland. 773-2337.

**T-Birds**  
Motor Booty Affair (funk),  
126 N. Boyd St, Portland.  
773-8040.

**The Underground**  
Dancing with Bob Look,  
3 Spring St, Portland.  
773-3315.

**Zootz**  
Rec Room (open 8 pm-  
1 am), 31 Forest Ave,  
Portland. 773-8187.

**Uptown Billy's Barbeque**  
T.B.A., 1 Forest Ave,  
Portland. 780-0141.

**Zootz**  
Funeral (Gothic Industrial  
Dance Music until 1 am),  
31 Forest Ave, Portland.  
773-8187.

**thursday 28**  
**The Basement**  
T.B.A., 1 Exchange St,  
Portland. 828-1111.

### friday 29

**The Basement**  
T.B.A., 1 Exchange St,  
Portland. 828-1111.

**The Big Easy**  
The Mark Nomad Band  
(blues), 416 Fore St,  
Portland. 780-1207.

**Comedy Connection**  
Bob Marley, 6 Custom  
House Wharf, Portland.  
774-0554.

**Dark Horse Saloon**  
Johnny Welfare & the  
Doomsday Prophets,  
128 Free St, Portland.  
774-1114.

**Geno's**  
Wide Open Mic Night with  
37 Smokes, 13 Brown St,  
Portland. 772-7891.

**The Moon**  
T.G.I. Thursday (DJ Jayce  
spins top 40 dance),  
427 Fore St, Portland.  
772-1983.

**Old Port Tavern**  
Hot Cherry Pie (hot rock),  
11 Moulton St, Portland.  
774-0444.

**Raoul's**  
Thanksgiving Dinner,  
865 Forest Ave, Portland.  
773-6886.

**Sisters**  
Thanksgiving Dinner,  
45 Danforth St, Portland.  
774-1505.

**Top of the East**  
Thanksgiving Brunch with  
Bobby Laine (piano),  
Radisson Eastland Hotel,  
157 High St, Portland.  
775-5411.

**The Underground**  
Thanksgiving Dinner,  
3 Spring St, Portland.  
773-3315.

**Uptown Billy's Barbeque**  
T.B.A., 1 Forest Ave,  
Portland. 780-0141.

**Zootz**  
Funeral (Gothic Industrial  
Dance Music until 1 am),  
31 Forest Ave, Portland.  
773-8187.

**Tipperary Pub**  
Bill Shimamura, Sheraton  
Tara Hotel, Maine Mall Rd.,  
So. Portland. 775-6161.

**Top of the East**  
Joined at the Hip (rock),  
Radisson Eastland Hotel, 157  
High St, Portland. 775-5411.

**The Underground**  
Dancing with DJ Andy,  
3 Spring St, Portland.  
773-3315.

**Uptown Billy's Barbeque**  
T.B.A., 1 Forest Ave,  
Portland. 780-0141.

**Verrillo's**  
Good Vibrations (top 40),  
155 Riverside St, Portland.  
775-6536.

**Zootz**  
Decades of Dance ('70s,  
'80s and '90s dance  
music), 31 Forest Ave,  
Portland. 773-8187.

**Uptown Billy's Barbeque**  
T.B.A., 1 Forest Ave,  
Portland. 780-0141.

**Uptown Billy's Barbeque**  
T.B.A., 1 Forest Ave,  
Portland. 780-0141.

**Uptown Billy's Barbeque**  
T.B.A., 1 Forest Ave,  
Portland. 780-0141.

### saturday 30

**The Basement**  
T.B.A., 1 Exchange St,  
Portland. 828-1111.

**The Big Easy**  
The Radio Kings (blues),  
416 Fore St, Portland.  
780-1207.

**Clyde's Pub**  
Karaoke, 173 Ocean Ave,  
So Portland. 799-4473.

**Comedy Connection**  
Bob Marley, 6 Custom House  
Wharf, Portland. 774-5554.

**Dark Horse Saloon**  
Silver & Lace with Mallinda  
Liberty, 145 Kennebec St,  
Portland. 773-7911.

**Free Street Taverna**  
The Zepprons (rock), 128 Free  
St, Portland. 774-1114.

**Geno's**  
Big Meat Hammer, The Gizmos  
featuring Captain PJ, Tupper  
Crust and Rick Blaze and the  
Baltubsters, 13 Brown St,  
Portland. 772-7891.

**The Basement**  
T.B.A., 1 Exchange St,  
Portland. 828-1111.

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Portland. 772-7891.

**The Basement**  
T.B.A., 1 Exchange St,  
Portland. 828-1111.

### sunday 1

**Comedy Connection**  
George Hamm's Comedy  
Showcase, 6 Custom House  
Wharf, Portland. 774-5554.

**Free Street Taverna**  
Hawke and Friends,  
128 Free St, Portland.  
774-1114.

**Gritty McDuff's**  
Be Bop Jazz, 396 Fore St,  
Portland. 772-2739.

**Old Port Tavern**  
Laser Karaoke with Stormin'  
Norman, 11 Moulton St,  
Portland. 774-0444.

**Stone Coast**  
Brewing Company  
Jazz Brunch with Lex & Joe,  
14 York St, Portland.  
773-2337.

**Top of the East**  
Jazz Brunch, Radisson  
Eastland Hotel, 157 High  
St, Portland. 775-5411.

**The Underground**  
Dancing with Jaminin' Joe  
(karaoke in front lounge),  
3 Spring St, Portland.  
773-3315.

**Wharf's End**  
Open Mic with Ken  
Grimsley, 52 Wharf St,  
Portland. 773-0093.

**Zootz**  
All Request Night (dance  
until 3 am), 31 Forest Ave,  
Portland. 773-8187.

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Open Mic with Ken  
Grimsley, 52 Wharf St,  
Portland. 773-0093.

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Portland. 773-0093.

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All Request Night (dance  
until 3 am), 31 Forest Ave,  
Portland. 773-8187.

**Wharf's End**  
Open Mic with Ken  
Grimsley, 52 Wharf St,  
Portland. 773-0093.

### monday 2

**Free Street Taverna**  
Open Mic with Dan  
Comeau, 128 Free St,  
Portland. 774-1114.

**Old Port Tavern**  
DJ Kilowatt Kevin,  
11 Moulton St, Portland.  
774-0444.

**Wharf's End**  
Open Mic with Ken  
Grimsley, 52 Wharf St,  
Portland. 773-0093.

**Zootz**  
Rec Room (open 8 pm-  
1 am), 31 Forest Ave,  
Portland. 773-8187.

**Andrew's Brewing Co.**  
Lincolnville, ME • Owner/Brewer Andy Hazen will  
be guest bartender pouring Andrew's Old English Ale, Andrew's Brown Ale and  
Andrew's Porter

**Bray's Brewing Company**  
Owner/Brewer Michael Bray will be on hand pouring  
his Old Church Pale Ale, Brandy Pond Blonde and Pleasant Mountain Porter

**540 Forest Avenue • Portland, ME • 772-0300 •** <http://www.greelostbear.com>

**Free Street Taverna**  
Big World (poetry readings),  
128 Free St, Portland.  
774-1114.

**Gritty McDuff's**  
Empty Pockets Full of  
Blues, 396 Fore St,  
Portland. 772-2739.

**Raoul's**  
Beau Jaque (zydeco),  
865 Forest Ave, Portland.  
773-6886.

**Steamers Bar & Grill**  
The State Street Traditional  
Jazz Band (jazz), 700 Main  
St, So Portland. 780-8434.

**Stone Coast**  
Brewing Company  
Heaven's to Murgatroid  
(alt rock), 14 York St,  
Portland. 773-2337.

**Wharf's End**  
Open Mic with Ken  
Grimsley, 52 Wharf St,  
Portland. 773-0093.

**Zootz**  
Rec Room (open 8 pm-  
1 am), 31 Forest Ave,  
Portland. 773-8187.

**The Big Easy**  
Red Light Revue  
(blues/R&B), 416 Fore St,  
Portland. 780-1207.

**Free Street Taverna**  
Diesel Doug's Rig Rock  
Revue, 128 Free St,  
Portland. 774-1114.

**Geno's**  
Women's Night, 13 Brown  
St, Portland. 772-7891.

**Gritty McDuff's**  
Zen Lunatic, 396 Fore St,  
Portland. 772-2739.

**The Moon**  
Ladies Night (DJ Dredd),  
427 Fore St, Portland.  
772-1983.

**Old Port Tavern**  
Concert Karaoke with DJ  
Greg Powers, 11 Moulton  
St, Portland. 774-0444.

**The Pavilion**  
DJ Jim Dewey Lynch (top 40),  
188 Middle St, Portland.  
773-6422.

**Stone Coast**  
Brewing Company  
Broken Men (Dead covers)  
and The Kind (rock),  
14 York St, Portland.  
773-2337.

**The Underground**  
Dancing with Bob Look,  
3 Spring St, Portland.  
773-3315.

**Zootz**  
DJ Jim Doe and Scud  
Mountain Boys, 31 Forest  
Ave, Portland. 773-8187.

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DJ Jim Doe and Scud  
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Ave, Portland. 773-8187.

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Mountain Boys, 31 Forest  
Ave, Portland. 773-8187.

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be guest bartender pouring Andrew's Old English Ale, Andrew's Brown Ale and  
Andrew's Porter  
Thursday 12/12 **Bray's Brewing Company** • Owner/Brewer Michael Bray will be on hand pouring  
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YESTERDAYS - LEWISTON

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**Sat. 11/30 THEORY OF NEGATIVITY**  
**W. RARE FORM**  
**Wed. 12/4 The Basement Trifurcation**  
Teams of 2 compete in Pool,  
Pinball and Air Hockey for  
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**Thur. 12/5 CHRONIC FUNK**  
**W. SPECIAL GUESTS**  
**Fri. 12/6 REVEREND GROOVE**  
**Sat. 12/7 LIQUID DAYDREAM**  
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# Listings

Casco Bay Weekly listings are a fun and free service to our readers. To have a listing considered for publication, send complete information (including dates, times, costs, complete address, a contact telephone number) by noon on Thursday prior to publication.

## stage

**"A Christmas Carol"** Portland Stage Company presents the Dickens classic. At PSC, 25A Forest Ave., Portland, Dec 1-29. Tues-Fri 7:30 pm, Sat 5 pm, Sun 2 pm. Dec 7 at 9 pm, Dec 8 at 7:30 pm. Holiday matinees: Dec 21, 23, 24 & 28 at 1 pm. Tix: \$19-\$29. 774-0465.

**"Here's Love"** The Portland Lyric Theater presents a musical remake of "Miracle on 34th Street" with music by Meredith Willson. At Portland Lyric Theater, 176 Sawyer St., So. Portland, Nov 29-Dec 8. Fri-Sat 8 pm, Sun 2:30 pm. Tix: \$11-\$13. 799-1421.

**"Jesus Christ Superstar"** A farewell production of the original rock musical by Andrew Lloyd Weber and Tim Rice. Nov 29 at the Civic Center, at 8 pm. Tix: \$20: 775-3458.

**"Lonely Planet"** Mad Horse Theatre Company presents the funny, touching story about an extraordinary friendship in the era of AIDS. At Mad Horse Theatre, Forest Ave., Portland, Dec 5-29. Thurs 7:30 pm, Fri & Sat 8 pm, Sun 5 pm. Tix: \$18 (\$16 students/seniors) \$20 (\$18 seniors/students) on Sat. Dec 5 & 12 are sold out. 797-3338.

**"Miss Nowhere Diner"** The USM Department of Theatre presents a play written by USM student Kathleen Potts. At Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St., Portland, Dec 6-8 at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$8 (\$6 seniors/\$4 students). 790-5483.

**"Mornings at Seven"** Portland Players presents the story of four sisters. At Portland Players, 420 Cottage Rd., So. Portland, Nov 29-Dec 14. Fri & Sat 8 pm, Sun 2:30 pm. Tix: \$13 (\$10 opening night). 799-7337.

**"Oliver Twist"** At the School House Arts Center, Route 114, Standish, Nov 29-Dec 8. Fri & Sat 8 pm, Sun 2 pm. Tix: Fri & Sat \$12 (\$8 seniors/students), Sun \$10 (\$6 seniors/students). 642-3742.

**Peabody House Benefit** The Dec 5 performance of "Lonely Planet," currently running at Mad Horse Theatre, will commemorate World AIDS Day and honor those who have lived at Peabody House. Tix: \$20. 774-6281.

**"Tuscaloosa"** Embassy Players reopens its musical comedy about the pressures of urban life Dec 5. Showing Thursdays at 8 pm. At the Arts Conservatory Theater and Studio, 341 Cumberland Ave., Portland, Tix: \$10 (\$8 seniors/students). 761-2465.

## auditions/etc

**Acting Classes** Basic technique to advanced scene study in a supportive, creative atmosphere. 878-5295.

**Dark Water Theatre Company** seeks two male actors (age 18-35) who will play multiple roles for its upcoming production of "Durang/Durang" by Christopher Durang Jan 1. Auditions consist of reading from the script. For more info or to schedule an appointment, call 892-3728.

**Auditions for unique acts** to perform in a variety show at the Comedy Connection in Portland. 774-5554.

**Cathedral Chamber Singers** A community choir based at St. Luke's Cathedral seeks new members. Auditions by appointment. 772-5434.

**Open Auditions** USM holds auditions for chorus parts in Mozart's opera "The Magic Flute." Call Bruce Fithian at 780-5275.

**Reindeer Performing Arts For Kids** Offers workshops on singing, acting, movement, songwriting, story-telling, character and scene development for kids ages 5-13 on weekdays and weekends. At the Reindeer Room, 650 Forest Ave., Portland, 2nd floor. 874-9002.

**Volunteers Needed** Oak Street Theatre Company has volunteer opportunities in a variety of areas, from set construction and painting to poster distribution and front of house. Volunteers receive complimentary tickets. For more info, call Michael Levine between 2-5 pm. 775-5103.

**Young Men's Choir** holds ongoing auditions by appointment only. 854-0182.

## concerts

### monday 2

**"Cowboy Ed's Percussion Adventure"** The percussion section of Portland Symphony Orchestra performs as part of its Kinderkonzert Series. At Catherine McAuley High School, 631 Stevens Ave., Portland, at 9:30 am, 10:30 am and 12:45 pm. Tix: \$2. 829-5751.

### tuesday 3

**"Cowboy Ed's Percussion Adventure"** The percussion section of Portland Symphony Orchestra performs as part of its Kinderkonzert Series. At Catherine McAuley High School, 631 Stevens Ave., Portland, at 9:30 am, 10:30 am and 12:45 pm. Tix: \$2. 829-5751.

**Joyous Sounds For a Festive Season** The USM Choral and Chamber Singers performs a program of carols and chants. At Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High Street, Portland, at 7 pm. Donation: \$5. 780-5555.

### wednesday 4

**Holiday Festival of Music** The Portland Museum of Art offers daily caroling and instrumental performances by area schoolchildren and community groups through Dec 20. Gray-New Gloucester School Choir at noon. At the PMA, 7 Congress Sq., Portland, Free. 775-6148.

## review

### Bar band boogie



The mighty Zef, temporarily at rest

ern Maine-based Zeftrons. En route, I sleepily consoled myself I could be back home and in bed in an hour.

Hours later, however, I found myself leaping off my barstool, demanding one more song with the rest of the appreciative crowd.

The band on this particular night featured Michael Landgarten on guitar and vocals, Ned Chase (formerly of Truffle) on lead guitar, Brian Coleman on bass and John Haas on drums. Playing with a refreshing lack of pretension, these guys, in a word, rocked. While it's often tempting to make comparisons when listening to a new band — Zeftrons critics cite traces of Hank Williams, John Hyatt and Steve Earle; I detected some "Nebraska"-era Springsteen — the band's roots-rock sound, driven by Landgarten's songwriting talents, is clearly its own.

The Zeftrons and their self-titled debut CD are already receiving wide acclaim, and despite what Landgarten describes as the band's late start in life ("Not everybody gets discovered at 23," he says), these guys are clearly on the rise. So when they return to town Nov. 30, staying home might be an option. Me, I'd rather sleep when I'm dead. The Zeftrons are just too much damn fun.

■ ELIZABETH PEAVER

The Zeftrons play Nov. 30 at the Free Street Taverna, 128 Free St. Cover: \$2. 774-1114.

## upcoming

**Holiday Festival of Music** Dec 5. The Portland Museum of Art offers daily caroling and instrumental performances by area schoolchildren and community groups through Dec 20. Dyer Elementary School Chorus at noon. Small School Chorus at 7 pm and Emanuel Baptist Church Senior Choir at 7:30 pm. At the PMA, 7 Congress Sq., Portland, Free. 775-6148.

**Christmas at the Cathedral** The Choral Art Society performs a holiday concert with the Portland Brass Quintet and organist Shirley Curry. At the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 307 Congress St., Portland, Dec 7 at 8 pm, Dec 8 at 2:30 pm and 7 pm. Tix: \$10-\$15. 828-0043.

**The Magic of Christmas** Dec 12-15. Portland Symphony Orchestra presents its annual program of holiday music featuring husband and wife team of lyric soprano Sherry Overholt and baritone Lee Velta, the Windham Chamber Singers, the Magic of Christmas Chorus and organist Ray Cornils. At the Civic Center, Portland, Dec 12 at 7:30 pm, Dec 13-15 at 2 pm and 7:30 pm. 773-8191.

## dance events

**Mainiac Swing Dance Society** presents a night of dancing the 1st Fri of every month. At Presumpscot Grange, outer Forest Ave across from Tortilla Flats, from 9 pm-midnight. Swing dance lesson at 8 pm. Cost: \$6. Next dance: Dec 6 with live music from Cool Shade of Blue. 828-1795.

**The Nutcracker** Maine State Ballet presents the holiday classic. At Biddeford City Theater, Main St., Biddeford Nov 29 at 7:30 pm, Nov 30 at 1:30 & 7:30, Dec 1 at 1:30 pm, Dec 6 at 7:30 pm, Dec 7 at 1:30 & 7:30 pm and Dec 8 at 1:30 pm. Tix: \$12-\$24. 856-1663.

**Thanksgiving Dance Party** Nov 30. Hosted by Maine Ballroom Dance Studio. At 614A Congress St., Portland, from 8 pm-midnight. Bring a potluck snack. 773-0002.

## others

**Agape** 657 Congress St., Portland. Cost: \$5 (\$18 for 4 classes). "Creative Movement" on Mondays from 5:15-7:15 pm. Cost: \$5. 780-1500.

**Ballroom Dance Social** The Gorham Dance Club hosts a ballroom party and social, Saturdays from 8-11 pm at the Center of Movement, 19 State St., Gorham. Potluck supper at 7 pm. Cost: \$5. 839-3267.

**Casco Bay Movers** Classes in jazz, tap, street funk, ballet and dance magic. Workshops in African dance, Capoeira, Swing, Jitterbug and Pilates. At 151 St. John St., Portland, 871-1013.

**Centre of Movement** School of Performing Arts, 19 State St., Gorham. Offers dance classes and special events on a regular basis. 839-3267.

**Contact Improvisation/Open Movement Dance Groups** meet Mon and Wed from 7:30-11 pm. Cost: \$3-\$6. Contact classes meet on Tues from 8-10 pm. Cost: \$5-\$10. At Portland Performing Arts, 25A Forest Ave., Portland. All ages and abilities welcome. 775-4981.

**Contradance** with Crooked Stovepipe Band every third Fri at 8:30 pm at the Presumpscot Grange, 1844 Forest Ave., Portland (across from Tortilla Flats). All dances taught. Singles always welcome. Cost: \$5. 774-3392.

**Contradance** with The Sea Slugs the first Sat of each month at 7:30 pm at Saco River Grange Hall, Salmon Falls Road, Bar Mills. Cost: \$4 (\$2 kids/\$10 family max). 929-6472.

**Contradance** with Whirled Peas and John McIntyre the first Fri of every month at 8:30 pm at State Street Church, 159 State St., Portland. Cost: \$5. (All dances taught). 774-1873.

**Dancing From the Inside Out** is an ongoing class in expressive dance and creative movement. Come move in a safe supportive space. No experience necessary, open to all. Sat 9-11 am, Wed 4-6 pm. At Maine Ballroom, 614 A Congress St., Portland. Cost: \$10. For more info, call Jesse Loebberg at 773-2362.

**Eduardo Mariscal** seeks volunteers to help backstage, sell tickets and do publicity for upcoming performances. 879-0480.

**Family Dance** Chem-free and fun-filled dancing for the whole family and for singles the 5th Sat of the month. Bring your favorite music on tape or CD to guarantee a dance that will please you. At the Swedenborgian Church, 302 Stevens Ave., Portland, from 6-10 pm. Cost: \$5 (\$3 kids/\$10 family). 772-8277.

**Maine Ballroom Dance Studio** 614A Congress St., Portland, offers classes in swing, foxtrot, waltz and Latin dance, as well as a dance party every Saturday night, from 8 pm-midnight. 773-0002.

**Maplewood Dance Center** 383 Warren Ave., Portland, is open every night for dancing. Country dancing Thurs-Mon, swing dancing the third Tuesday of every month and ballroom dancing Wed. 878-0584.

**Meditative Belly Dance** Want to learn to shimmy and shake? Then take belly dancing classes with Josie at 25A Forest Ave., Portland. Wed 6:45-8 pm (any level) or Tues 6:30-8 pm (intermediate level, by invitation only). Workshops also available. For more information, call 828-6571 and ask for Josie.

**New Dance Studio** 61 Pleasant St., Portland, offers modern dance classes for adults and children (ages 4-17). Faculty includes Lisa Hicks, Gwyneth Jones, Daniel McCusker and Paul Sarvis. For a free brochure, call 780-0554.

**Star of Sea Dance Kids** learn the basics of tap, jazz and ballet, Wednesdays from 3:30-4:15 pm (4-6 years) and 6:15-7 pm at Riverton Community Center, 1600 Forest Ave., Portland. Cost: \$15 per month. Sponsored by Portland Parks and Recreation. 874-8455.

## events

**Portland Pirates** Nov 27: Pirates vs. Fredericton at 7:30 pm. Nov 30: Pirates vs. Springfield at 7:30 pm. At the Civic Center, Portland. Tix: \$5-\$13. 775-3458.

**International YouthPeace Week** Nov 29-Dec 5. The YouthPeace Campaign of the War Resisters League presents a week of recognition and action by youth and on their behalf. For more info, call YouthPeace/WRL at 212-229-0450.

**World AIDS Day** Dec 1. An Evening of Remembering and Caring presented by Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services. At the Unitarian-Universalist Church, 15 Pleasant St., Brunswick, at 7 pm. Reception follows. 725-4955.

**Dave Geary Benefit Roast** Dec 2. A four course dinner accompanied by two beer selections. The post-dinner roast of the "Grandfather of Brewing" will include highlights from Dave Geary's first 10 years of brewing, as told by friends and colleagues. At Stone Coast Brewing Company, 14 York St., at 6 pm. Tix: \$75. 874-1000.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

## Wayne Pacelle

Humane Society of the United States presents

## The Link Between Animal Cruelty & Human Violence:

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Saturday, December 7th, 7PM

Lecture free/no reservations needed  
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December 6, 8 P.M. • Crooker Theater,  
Brunswick High School, Brunswick  
7:30 P.M. Pre-concert lecture by Karin Dillman

December 7, 8 P.M. • Christmas at St. Peter's  
Church of Saints Peter and Paul, Lewiston  
7:30 P.M. Pre-concert lecture by Richard Williamson

Tickets \$12.50 in advance, \$15 at door. Students half price.

Concert Sponsors: A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc., Atlantic Bank, N.A., Liberty Mutual,  
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## Grandmother Bait.



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"A stones throw from Bethel"

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

**Victorian Holiday Portland** Presented by Portland's Downtown District. Nov. 29: Monument Square Tree Lighting with a visit from Father Christmas, from 5:30-6 pm. Nov. 29: Old Port Window Walk with lots of costumed characters, carolers and musicians, from 6-8 pm. Dec. 1: Victorian Horse and Carriage Parade through downtown streets with drivers and passengers in costume, from 1-3 pm. Holiday festivities running Nov. 29 through Dec. 22: free holiday wagon rides, Fri. 4-8 pm, Sat. & Sun. 2-6 pm; visits with Father and Mother Christmas, Sat. & Sun. 1-3 pm, in Post Office Park; costumed carolers, Sat. & Sun. 1-3 pm. 772-6828.

**Lighting of the Copper Beech Tree** Dec. 6, Portland Museum of Art hosts a family festival with music, food, art, activities, visits with Santa and the annual lighting of the Copper Beech Tree. At PMA, 7 Congress Sq, Portland from 5-7 pm. Free. 775-6148.

## art openings

**Arabica Coffee House** 16 Free St, Portland. Opening reception for paintings by teens from the Center for Teaching and Learning in Edgecomb, Dec. 15 from 3-5 pm. Shows through Jan. 15. 879-0792.

**Connecticut** 66 Main St, Brunswick. Opening reception and party for "Small Paintings & Art Gifts," a holiday show featuring 46 artists and craftspeople, Nov. 29 from 10 am-8 pm. Shows through Jan. 25. Hours: Mon-Thurs 10 am-5 pm, Fri 10 am-8 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm. 725-1399.

**Delliah Pottery** 132 Spring St, Portland. Opening reception for Holiday Miniatures Exhibition, featuring work by Hazel Raby, Katie Brown, Ellen Gutekunst, Jon White, Timothea Bierman, Desta Toot, Tanja Alexia Hollander, Darian Brahms, Leyli Johnson, Tim Nihoff and Cindy MacKay. Dec. 5 from 5-8 pm. Shows Nov. 29 through Dec. 21. Hours: Mon-Fri 11 am-6 pm, Sat noon-4 pm. 871-1594.

**Gallery Music** 21 Forest Ave, Portland. Opening reception for "Trees, Rocks, Water," paintings and works on paper by Lavender, Dec. 4 from 5-8 pm. Hours: Mon-Sat 9:30 am-5 pm. 775-1304.

**Greenhut Gallery** 146 Middle St, Portland. Opening reception for "Artists Care, Greenhut Cares" Dec. 7 from 2-4 pm. Shows through Dec. 31. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm. 772-2693.

**Icon** 19 Mason St, Brunswick. Opening reception for photographs by Paul D'Amato, Jocelyn Lee, Rose Marasco and Richard Renner, Dec. 7 from 4-6 pm. Shows through Jan. 15. New works by Duane Paluska show Nov. 30 from 1-6 pm and Dec. 1 from 1-4 pm in the upstairs gallery. New paintings by Martha Groome show through Nov. 28. A group exhibition of work by Katherine Bradford, Fred Lynch, Duane Paluska, Claire Seidl and Alice Steinhart shows in the upstairs gallery also through Nov. 28. Hours: Mon-Fri 1-5 pm, Sat 1-4 pm. 725-8157.

**Lakes Gallery & Sculpture Garden** Rt. 302, South Casco. "Art is a Special Gift," a holiday show of work by 17 artists, shows through Dec. 23. Hours: 10 am-5 pm daily. 655-5066.

## now showing

**Agape Center** 657 Congress St, Portland. "Papers of the Spirit," works by Richard Lee. Hours: Mon-Fri 10-12 pm and by appt. 780-1500.

**African Imports and New England Arts** 28 Milk St, Portland. "Hidden Treasures," traditional African arts, rare carvings and works by modern artists from Nigeria to New England, ongoing. Hours: 10:30 am-9 pm Mon-Sat, 12-6 pm Sun. 772-9905.

**Area Gallery** USM Campus Center, Portland. "Being Heard: The Strength, Courage and AIDS of Winnie MacDonald" photographs by Jim Daniels shows through Dec. 13. Reception with the artist Dec. 1 from 5-6 pm. 780-5409.

**Art & Artifacts Gallery** Route 1, Freeport. "Explorations East," photographs by Barbara Goodbody, shows through Dec. 7. Hours: Tues-Sun 10 am-6 pm. 865-1921.

**Art Gallery at Six Deering Street** 6 Deering St, Portland. Hours: Tues-Sat 11 am-5 pm. 772-9605.

**Art Star** 578 Congress St, top floor, Portland. Opening show featuring works by Kelly McConnell, Elinor Protti, George Larou, Eugene Cole, Punkinwood, Carlo Pittore, Kindra Murphy and Jobie Weber shows through Dec. 19. Hours: Wed & Thurs 5:30-8 pm, Sat noon-4 pm and by appointment. 774-2097.

**Barbara's Kitchen** 2 Cottage Lane, Cape Elizabeth. Small paintings by Marilyn Blinkhorn show through Dec. 20. 767-6313.

**The Baxter Gallery** 619 Congress St, Portland. "Genius Loci: A Sense of Place," an exhibition of works by six painters reflecting the importance of memory and personal connectedness with the world around us shows through Dec. 15. Hours: Tues-Sun 11 am-4 pm, Thurs 11 am-9 pm. 775-5152.

**Bowdoin College Museum of Art** Walker Art Building, Brunswick. The museum is open to the public free of charge. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Mon-Sun 2-5 pm. 725-3275.

\* **"Art & Life in the Ancient Mediterranean"** An installation of Assyrian, Egyptian, Cypriot, Greek and Roman art, ongoing.

\* **"Crosscurrents 1996"** Art from Africa, Asia and the Americas, as well as contemporary objects from the permanent collection, ongoing.

\* **"Exploring Extremes of Style and Story: Mannerism in Sixteenth Century Europe."** Shows through Dec. 8.

\* **"Twenty-Five Years of African-American Art from the Studio Museum in Harlem's Permanent Collection."** Shows through Dec. 1.

**Chocolate Church Arts Center** 804 Washington St, Bath. Members exhibition shows Nov. 22 through Dec. 20. 442-8455.

**Coffee By Design** 620 Congress St, Portland. Holiday Show featuring artwork by Greg Day, Marilyn Blinkhorn, Brian Currier, Jill Monaghan and Chris Gerquest shows through Jan. 4. Hours: Mon-Fri 7 am-8 pm, Sat 8 am-8 pm, Sun 8 am-7 pm. 772-5533.

**Danforth Gallery** 34 Danforth St, Portland. "An American Collection," an exhibition of paintings and other works by artists with disabilities from across the country shows through Nov. 27. Work by Fred Wiley shows through Nov. 27. Hours: Wed, Fri, Sat 11 am-5 pm, Thurs 11 am-8 pm, Sun noon-5 pm. 775-6245.

**Davidson & Daughters** 148 High St, Portland. Holiday and first anniversary show, featuring works by Susan Aripitch, Kathleen Bolt, L. Murray Jamison and Joan Murray, shows through Dec. 25. Hours: Tues-Sat 11 am-6 pm, Fri 11 am-8 pm (first Thurs of the month 11 am-8 pm). 780-0766.

**Falmouth Memorial Library** 5 Lunt Rd, Falmouth. Work by Vi Eastman shows through Nov. 30. Hours: Tues & Thurs 9:30 am-8 pm, Wed, Fri & Sat 9:30 am-5 pm. 781-2351.

**The Family Kitchen Restaurant** 4 Pleasant St, Brunswick. "People to Think About," paintings by Marilyn Blinkhorn, shows through Jan. 1. 729-5526.

**Fibula Gallery** 50 Exchange St, Portland. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. 761-4432.

**Foghorn Gallery** 4 Clinton St, Portland. International folk art, Oaxacan wood carvings, black pottery and crafts of indigenous peoples. By appointment. 781-2563.

**Foreside Cafe** 201 U.S. Route 1, Falmouth. Paintings by Kate Merrick. Ongoing. Hours: Sun-Thurs 7 am-3 pm, Fri-Sat 7 am-7 pm. 781-4931.

**"Forest City Annual: 1996 Wood Sculpture Exhibition"** The Maine Artists' Space and 35 organizations and individuals present the first annual outdoor exhibition of large wood-based public works of art on display throughout Portland's Arts District from six nationally recognized sculptors, including two from Maine. The sculptures show through Nov. 30. 775-2708.

**Free Street Taverna** 128 Free St, Portland. Mixed media Greek collages by Richard Lee. Hours: Mon 11 am-4 pm, Tues-Sat 11 am-10 pm. 774-1114.

**Frost Gully Gallery** 411 Congress St, Portland. Recent paintings by Dahlov Ipcar. Hours: Mon-Fri noon-6 pm. 773-2555.

**Gallery 7** 164 Middle St, Portland. Hours: Mon-Sat 11 am-6 pm, open Fri until 8 pm. 761-7007.

**Hole in the Wall Studios** 1544 Roosevelt Trail, Raymond. "Art For the Holidays," a group show and sale of work by gallery artists, shows through Jan. 30. Hours: 9:30 am-5:30 pm daily (closed Tues). 655-4952.

**Jameson Gallery** 217 Commercial St, Portland. Fine woodworking by a collection Maine craftsmen shows through Dec. 31. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5:30 pm. 772-5522.

**Java Joe's** 13 Exchange St, Portland. "The Environmental Landscape," photographs by Richard Sandifer show through Dec. 15. Hours: Mon-Thurs 7:30 am-11 pm, Fri 7:30 am-midnight, Sat 9 am-midnight, Sun 9 am-10 pm. 761-5637.

**The Jones Museum of Glass and Ceramics** Douglas Hill, Sebago. Cost: \$25. Reservations suggested. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. Cost: \$5 (\$3 students). 787-3370.

**June Fitzpatrick Gallery** 112 High St, Portland. Hours: Tues-Sat noon-5 pm, Thurs noon-8 pm. 772-1961.

**June Fitzpatrick Gallery, Downtown** 20-30 Danforth St #304, Portland. Opening reception for "Full Circle: 20 Years of Prints," photographs by Bernard C. Meyers, shows through Dec. 27. Hours: Tues-Sat 3-9 pm and by appointment. 772-3182.

**Kaleidoscope Gallery** Route 25, Gorham. Fine art, pottery, sculpture, jewelry and crafts by local artists. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-5 pm, Sat 10 am-4 pm. 839-6926.

**L. Murray Jamison Photography** 22 Monument Sq, #604, Portland. "Martinique: A Journey to the French West Indies," photographs by L. Murray Jamison, shows through Dec. 31. Hours: by appointment only. 871-8244.

**Maine Audubon Society** Gillsland Farm Environmental Center, 118 U.S. Route One, Falmouth. Artwork by Andrea Sulzer shows through mid-December. 781-2330.

**Maine Pottery Market** 376 Fore St, Portland. Hours: 10 am-6 pm daily. 774-1633.

**Maine Writers Center** 12 Pleasant St, Brunswick. Illustrations and prints by Dahlov Ipcar show through Dec. 31. Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5. 729-6333.

**Margarita's Restaurant** 242 St. John St, Portland. Original watercolors by Bonnie Brown. Ongoing. Hours: 4-11 pm daily. 874-6444.

**Meander Gallery** 40 Pleasant St, Portland. Hours: Tues-Sat, 12-6 pm. 871-1078.

**Nancy Margolis Gallery** 367 Fore St, Portland. Jewelry by John Casner shows through Jan. 1. The fifth annual Menorah exhibit, featuring hand-crafted Hanukkah Menorahs by over 20 glass, ceramic and metal artists, shows through Jan. 1. Hours: Mon-Wed 10 am-6 pm, Thurs 10 am-8 pm, Fri-Sat 10 am-9 pm and Sun 11 am-6 pm. 775-3822.

**O'Farrell Gallery** 58 Maine St, Brunswick. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm. 729-8228.

**On Balance** 4 Milk St, Portland. Ceramics by Genevieve Levin and paper sculptures by Patricia McCabe show through Dec. 31. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-4:30 pm. 772-9812.

**"The Paintings of Eric Hopkins"** By appointment only, call 871-7916.

**Perfetto's Restaurant** 28 Exchange St, Portland. "Almost Eddie," paintings by Kate Merrick, ongoing. Hours: Mon-Sun 11 am-11 pm. 828-0001.

**Pine Tree Shop and Bayview Gallery** 75 Market St, Portland. Hours: Mon-Tues 9:30 am-5:30 pm, Wed-Sat 9:30 am-8 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. 773-3007.

**Portland Museum of Art** 7 Congress Sq, Portland. Hours: Tues, Wed, Sat 10 am-5 pm, Thurs-Fri 10 am-9 pm, Sun noon-5pm. Admission: \$6 adults, \$5 students/seniors, \$1 youth 6-12 years. Museum admission is free 5-9 pm every Friday evening. The last Thursday of every month seniors only pay \$3. 775-6148 or 1-800-639-4067.

\* **The Scott M. Black Collection** A sampling from Scott Black's 19th- and 20th-century paintings and sculptures.

\* **19th- and 20th-Century European and American Art** Paintings, sculptures and works on paper by Monet, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and other masters of the past two centuries. Ongoing.

\* **"From Monet to Matisse: The Origins of Modernism"** A complete overview of French art from early impressionism through Neo-Impressionism to Fauvism. Ongoing.

\* **"Philippe Halsman: A Gallery of Stars"** Documenting twenty years of Halsman's ability to capture "star quality" of some of America's favorite entertainers. Featuring Lucille Ball, Milton Berle and Dinah Shore. Ongoing.

\* **"Torn Asunder: Collage in Twentieth-Century Art,"** including work by Kurt Schwitters, Jean Arp, Robert Rauschenberg, William Manning and Katanna Westlin. Shows through Dec. 15.

\* **"A Collective Vision: A Decade of Patronage from the Friends of the Collection,"** including works by Rockwell Kent, Marsden Hartley, Andy Warhol and Marguerite Zorach. Shows through Dec. 9.

\* **"Elizabeth B. Noyce Collection,"** including works by Fritz Hugh Lane, Albert Bierstadt, Childe Hassam, George Bellows, Rockwell Kent and Andrew Wyeth from the recently deceased philanthropist's bequest to the museum. Ongoing.

\* **"Dale Chihuly: Seafarers"** Glass works by one of the best-known contemporary glass artists in the U.S. Shows through Jan. 12.

\* **"Will Faller: The Faces of AIDS"** In observance of World AIDS Day, PMA presents an exhibition of portraits by Will Faller of residents of "Magic Valley," a community on the Mexican-American border and home to more than 700,000 of America's poorest citizens. Shows Nov. 27 through Jan. 5.

**Portland Pottery** 118 Washington Ave, Portland. Ongoing show of unique and functional ceramics and jewelry by Lisa Bonarrigo, teachers and students. Hours: Mon-Fri 9-6 pm. 772-4334.

**Portland Public Library** 5 Monument Square, Portland. "People First," a group show by the Portland Coalition, shows through Nov. 30. Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri 9 am-6 pm, Tues & Thurs 12-9 pm, Sat 9 am-5 pm. 871-1700.

**Renaissance Antiques** 221 Commercial St, Portland. Ongoing show of works by John Dehlinger, Wilder Oaks, Terry Wolf and other Maine artists. Hours: 10 am-7 pm daily. 879-0789.

**Salt Gallery** 17 Pine St, Portland. "Remembering a Place: Photographs by Dave Read" shows through Nov. 30. Hours: Wed & Fri 2-6 pm, Sat 10 am-1 pm. 761-0660.

**Sawyer Street Studios** 131 Sawyer St, Portland. "Works in Clay," a show featuring the work of ten ceramic artists, shows Nov. 30 through Dec. 24. Hours: Sat 10 am-4 pm, Sun noon-4 pm, and by appointment. 767-7113.

**The Spring Point Museum** at Southern Maine Technical College, Fort Rd, So. Portland. "Portland Harbor, 1865-1900: Making a Living in Stormy Times," Ongoing. Hours: Wed-Sun 10 am-4 pm. Admission: \$2 (kids free). 799-6337.

**Southern Maine Wellness Center** 884 Broadway, So. Portland. Watercolors and prints by Maine native Diana Johnson show through Nov. 30. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-6 pm. 767-7543.

**Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers** 415 Cumberland Ave, Portland. Hours: Mon-Sat 9 am-5 pm. 774-3791.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32



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conrad anker climbing in cody, wyoming. photo: beth wald

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bill crouse climbing in khumbu, nepal. photo: chris noble

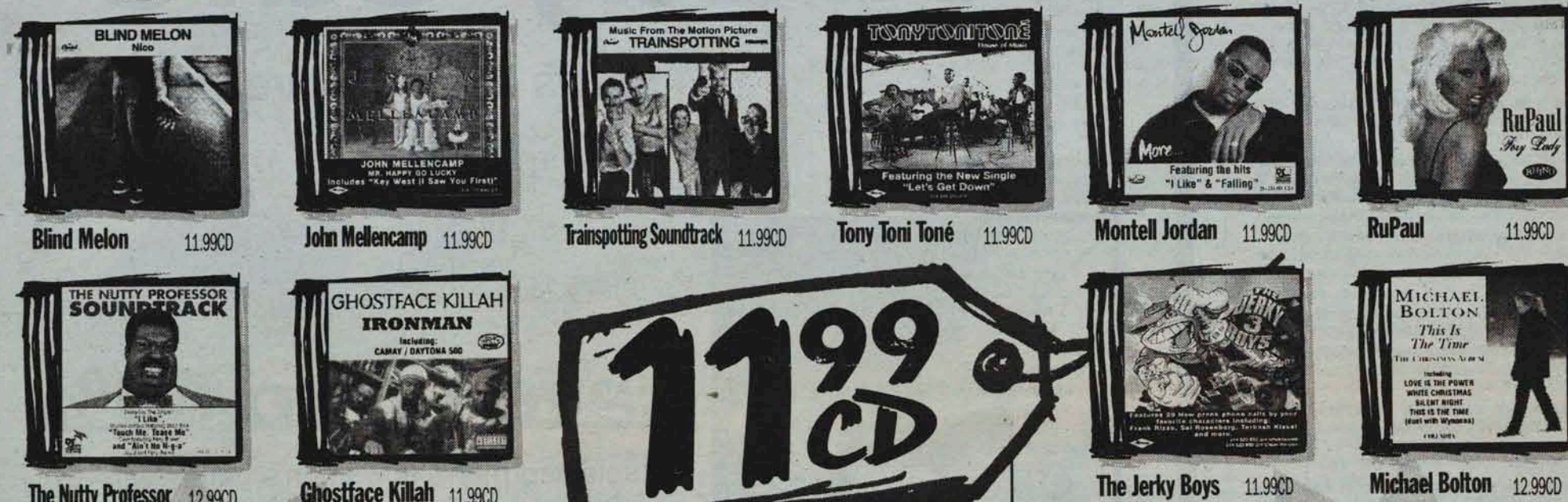
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## Nine

JIM PINFOLD

**1** Before Muhal Richard Abrams played in Portland, he requested additional music stands. He said the lengthy piece (which turned out to be the only piece) he would be performing did not allow time for musicians to turn the pages of their music. They needed, instead, to string it out. Though more than 30 audience members walked out in the first 15 minutes, the piece turned out to be less Titanic and more sloop than either the length or complexity suggested. A-

**2** "I Stand Accused" is on any short list of great soul songs. Jerry Butler's original is the best-known version, but Isaac Hayes made the song his own with his extended soul-rap rendition. A few weeks ago at Raoul's, I was tipped over by Walter "Wolfman" Washington's interpretation. Though Washington's take may never cut the Skinhead's version, he held his own with this greatest of desperate declarations, and the too-small audience cheered. Washington at Raoul's. B+

**3** Mike Leigh must not have had much faith in his film "Secrets and Lies." Leigh added Andrew Dickson's soundtrack, the most bathetic drive to disrupt a movie since "The Piano." In every scene of revelation, the surging cello forces the viewer to duck and cover. Sometimes accompanied by violin, viola or (god forbid) harp, the cello buries every subtle moment. Brenda Blethyn's one-note performance had already nudged the movie toward the edge. Why Leigh decided to give it the big kick is a question for *Film Comment* essays. "Secrets" without music. B+ With. B-

**4** Nick Hornby's novel, "High Fidelity," was recommended to me last year by friends. Reviews pointed to similarities between the book's protagonist, Rob, and myself. Of course, I avoided it, until it was given to me. A week after finishing it, I noticed a woman reading it on a subway platform. I wondered what a stranger thought of this guide to a music junkie. Were the in-jokes too obscure? Did she appreciate the search for rumpled perfection that is Rob's raison d'être? She said she found the book amusing and "a good speed read." And what did she think of Rob, whom, I neglected to mention, I found charming and engaging? "Well, he's a bit of an ass, isn't he?"

**5** On a recent round-trip to Boston on Concord Trailways, I saw the very awful movie "Congo" not once, but twice. Besides the African porters working while singing "California Dreaming" (true), I suffered

through the fabulously racist stereotype of loin-clothed natives on their knees, waving their outstretched arms. The synchronized movements aren't far distant from porcelain pickaninnies chomping watermelons, and can only be accepted in ignorance. The boom market in racist memorabilia should latch onto this video. It's timeless.

**6** In the Manuscript Salon at the British Museum, display cases are filled with some of the most extraordinary artifacts of Western culture, from a wildly handwritten page of "Finnegan's Wake" to a meticulous "Messiah" to the original of "Alice in Wonderland." Gathered around a case holding one of four known copies of the Magna Carta, tourists listened as an animated middle-aged woman described how this 782-year old document came to the museum. Five feet away, four young Japanese women stood in front of another display, reading a handwritten version of "Help." They began to sing, and as they arrived at the chorus "Help — not just anybody — Help," the lecturer fixed them with a stern stare.

**7** Musicians can be too good — or at least too efficient. At Raoul's, Jimmie Dale Gilmore's guitar player was so facile and integrated into the overall sound, he became all but invisible. Nothing was beyond his technical grasp, but little identified him as anything but a studio wizard. Frightening.

**8** Two weeks ago as I stood above the long-decayed corpse of Charles Darwin, the Westminster Abbey children's choir trundled into the nave for rehearsal. "He is the Savior," they sang. Their director said, "Try it again, but with a softer V, please." "He is the Savior." "Again please, but watch the V." "He is the ..." "Robert is that you?" "He is the Savior." "Much better. Let's carry on." Their voices reverberated off the limestone, granite and brass, then miraculously settled in perfection on the ears of listeners pausing in the shadows. It was more than an hour before the hymn was finished.

**9** Some hundred meters below my perch on top of Pen-Y-Ghent in North Yorkshire, I watched crows tumble through the updrafts to pick at a rabbit carcass that lay alongside the same 200-year-old rock wall that sheltered me. It was the first time in days I'd thought of home. It wasn't the mountain, the cold or the crows. It was the bit of snow starting to fall and the clarity of the late afternoon light that momentarily tugged. **CGW**

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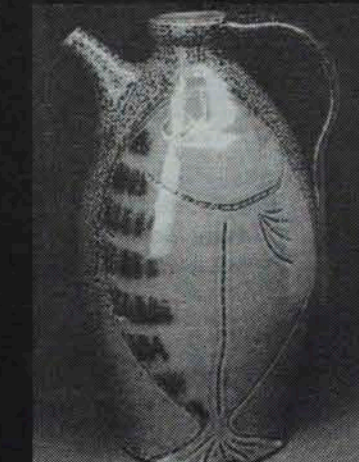


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# calendar

Submissions for the calendar must be received in writing on the Thursday prior to the publication. Send your calendar listings to Zoe Miller, Casco Bay Weekly, 361 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101.



**wednesday 27** Rockabilly is the daddy of rock 'n' roll, and nobody knows how to rumble better than "the Blonde Bomber" himself, rockabilly legend **Ronnie Dawson**. The Dallas Dawson started his career in the late '50s and continues to play the raw rock 'n' roll his fans expect, with just enough edge to attract new admirers. Check Dawson out when he rumbles with local rockabilly favorites King Memphis and Nick "Wild Child" Curran & the Sideburners. At Raoul's, 865 Forest Ave., Portland. Tix: \$10. 773-6886.


**thursday 28** We could tell you to give all your money to charity or to practice random acts of kindness and senseless beauty, but what the heck — this **Thanksgiving** we simply encourage you to eat a lot. Afterwards, as you lie bloated to capacity on the sofa watching yet another football game, feeling the wrath of your gluttony, perhaps you'll decide for yourself what your good deed should be. Don't let yourself be consumed by guilt. **friday 29** There's no fighting the Christmas spirit now that Thanksgiving is over. Why not take a stroll downtown for the Monument Square Tree Lighting and the kickoff of "Victorian Holiday Portland," presented by Portland's Downtown District? Father Christmas will make an appearance from 5:30-6 p.m. If you're up to it, you can even join in an Old Port Window Walk with lots of costumed characters, carolers and musicians, from 6-8 p.m. 772-6828. **saturday 30** If you've suddenly got the ski bug but you missed the off-season sales, don't curse yourself — just pop in on the **Downtown Ski Club Equipment Sale**. The sale will feature new and used ski equipment of all shapes, sizes and makes. At Sullivan Gym, USM campus, Portland, from 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Free. If you need to make room for your new gear, you can sell your used equipment by registering Nov. 29 from 4-8 p.m. or Nov. 30 until noon. 1-800-879-9272. **sunday 1** Feeling stingy about giving up your loot for holiday gifts? Sounds like it's time to make a date to see Portland Stage Company's production of "A Christmas Carol," Charles Dickens' classic tale of greed, loneliness and the Christmas spirit. At Portland Stage Company, 25A Forest Ave., at 7:30 p.m. "A Christmas Carol" shows through Dec. 29. Tix: \$10-\$29. 774-0465. **monday 2** Some people say the drum is the most important instrument. We won't waste time arguing, but we will recommend that percussion lovers take their little ones on "Cowboy Ed's Percussion Adventure," a kinderkonzert performed by the percussion section of the Portland Symphony Orchestra. PSO cellist Debbie Dabczynski narrates the story of Cowboy Ed and his travels throughout the U.S. while the percussionists bang, boom, click, clang and whistle away. At Catherine McAuley High School, 631 Stevens Ave., at 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Also Dec. 3. Tix: \$2. 829-5751.

**tuesday 3** In Beau Jocke's hometown of New Orleans people take their zydeco pretty seriously. When Jocke and his band, the **Zydeco Hi-Rollers**, strutted their stuff last year at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, every butt in the house was shakin'. Jocke's hot mixture of Cajun, funk, rock 'n' roll and blues has been called "the fastest zydeco groove ever played on the Delta" and "a shotgun wedding of Clifton Chenier and ZZ Top officiated by John Lee Hooker." You've just got to investigate. At Raoul's, 865 Forest Ave., Portland. Tix: \$10. 773-6886. **wednesday 4** A complicated tale of courtship, love and family strife, "Beautiful Thing," from British director Hettie MacDonald, is just the sort of film to see when you're feeling self-absorbed. The story follows two teenage boys, classmates and neighbors, who flirt with a relationship amidst the drama of their everyday lives. The Village Voice called "Beautiful Thing" both unsentimental and sweet, "a hugely tender-hearted picture." At The Movies, 10 Exchange St., at 5, 7 & 9 p.m. Shows through Dec. 10. Tix: \$4.25. 772-9600. **thursday 5** The Portland Museum of Art ushers in its own **Holiday Festival of Music** to remind us just how much music we the people are capable of producing. Nearly every day until Dec. 20, PMA offers caroling and instrumental performances by area schoolchildren and community groups. To start things off, Dyer Elementary School Chorus performs at noon, Small School Chorus at 7 p.m. and Emmanuel Baptist Church Senior Choir at 7:30 p.m. At the PMA, 7 Congress Sq. Free. 775-6148. **friday 6** USM graduate Kathleen Potts found the setting for her play, "Miss Nowhere Diner," after passing the Miss Portland Diner on her way to and from work every day. Potts' first play, a story of a young couple who win a diner in a card game, is presented by USM's Department of Theatre with co-directors Thomas Power and William Steele. At Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St., at 7:30 p.m. Also Dec. 8. Tix: \$8 (\$6 seniors/\$4 students). 780-5483. **saturday 7** What would make a smarter gift for your favorite egghead than a book signed by one of the more than 65 Maine authors who will be mingling at the **Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance Authors Holiday Open House?** Among the gifted who'll be offering their John Hancocks are Wesley McNair, Sis Deans, Elizabeth Cooke and Sanford Phippen. At MWPA, 12 Pleasant St., Brunswick, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 729-6333.




Beau Jocke and his butt-shakin' Zydeco, Dec. 3

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LG SCREEN TV-ALESPORTS  
Every Thurs. \$1.75 Microbrew Pints C-CL  
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Free Food  
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AT ONE CITY CENTER IN THE FOOD COURT  
Fri. Dec. 6 5pm - 8pm  
Sat. Dec. 7 9am - 7pm  
Maine College of Art  
ceramics • SCULPTURE  
paintings • METALWORKS  
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**Get Laid Back**  
 on Saturday  
**NOVEMBER 30**  
 from: 7:30-10pm at  
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 Save 15% on every piece of furniture, you name it! Buy for yourself, to fix up your home for the holidays or for gifts! With hundreds of items on sale, the choice is yours!

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 Enter to win a \$500 shopping spree. Splurge on yourself or buy everyone great gifts. No purchase necessary. One winner per store to be drawn by December 10. See store for contest details!

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

**The Underground Gallery at the Casco Bay Country Store** 185 Park Row, Brunswick. Work by Milli Chapell. Ongoing. 725-3907.

**University of Maine Portland Centre** 533 Congress St. Portland. Paintings and drawings by U Maine Faculty Emeritus, Vincent Hartgen, show through Jan 17. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm. 828-2327.

**USM Art Gallery** 37 College Ave, Gorham. "Representing Holocaust," including Judy Ellis Glickman's "Resistance and Rescue: Denmark's Response to the Holocaust" and Jonathan Sharlin's "Portrait Narratives," shows through Dec 20. Hours: Tues-Sat 11 am-4 pm, Thurs 11 am-8 pm. 780-5409.

**USM's Stone House** Wolf Neck Rd, Freeport. Works by Kathleen Meade and Julie Freund show through Nov 30. Call for viewing times. 865-3428.

**Walter's Cafe** 15 Exchange St, Portland. Oil paintings by Brian Currier. Ongoing. 874-9258.

**The Whimsical World of David Cedrone** 150 High St, Portland. 761-2808.

**Will's Restaurant** 78 Island Ave, Peak's Island. Paintings by Lenny Hutch. Ongoing. 766-3322.

## other

**"Activating Your Creativity"** Share your creative process and products (of whatever form!) in a safe and supportive environment. If you wish to share, plan on 5-10 minutes. Meets the first Wed of the month, at Agape, 657 Congress St, Portland, at 7:30 pm. Suggested donation: \$5. 780-1500.

**Artists Apply** Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Square, Portland, invites artists to submit work for one-month exhibition in the Lewis gallery. 871-1758.

**Artists Wanted** to exhibit two-dimensional work at USM's Area Gallery. Please send slides, resume and proposal to Karen Kitchen, Director, USM Art Galleries, P.O. Box 9300, Portland, Me. 04104-9300. 780-5008.

**"ART SHOW"** Seeking quality artists, sculptors and photographers to submit works for juried Dec 7 show. 787-3281 or 787-2803.

**"ATHENA: A Journal for Positive Women"** seeks submissions of poetry, photography, short stories and drawings on the topic of spirituality, by women with HIV/AIDS. Sponsored by the Maine Women's Fund. Send submissions to: ATHENA, The AIDS Project, P.O. Box 5305, Portland ME 04101. 774-6877.

**Call For Artwork** Sherwood Heights Percent For Art announces a competition for artists to design, execute and install artwork at two selected sites. All professional artists may apply for consideration for this project. Write to: Dr. Mary Richard, Auburn School Department, 23 High St, Auburn ME 04212-0800. 784-6431.

**Call For Work** Danforth Gallery invites all Maine artists age 55 or older to submit work for its 7th annual "Senior Perspectives: Expressions of Spirituality" exhibition. Please send a SASE for the prospectus to "Expressions of Spirituality," Danforth Gallery, 20-36 Danforth St, Portland, ME 04101, or call 775-6550.

**A Day Without Art Lectures** Dec 1. In conjunction with "Being Heard: The Strength, Courage and AIDS of Winnie MacDonal" photographs by Jim Daniels, USM presents two lectures: "AIDS as a Photographic Subject" with Jim Daniels and "AIDS, Women and Documentary Practice" with USM Art Galleries' director Karen Kitchen. At the Area Gallery, USM Campus Center, Portland, from 6-8 pm. 780-5409.

**Design Aid '96** In conjunction with World AIDS Day, Pets Make Wonderful Support (PAWS) and Maine AIDS Alliance hold a silent auction of more than 30 holiday wreaths, chosen from entries submitted by individual and local florists. Nov 26 through Dec 1. Winners are chosen Dec 1 at 4 pm. At the Portland Museum of Art, 7 Congress Sq, Portland. For more info, call PAWS at 775-7297.

**French/Photography Workshop in Martinique** Feb 3-17, 1997 with L. Murray Jamison. Limited spaces available. Reservation are being taken now. 871-8244.

**Healing Through Arts** A group integrating art, healing and spiritual development meets the last Sun of the month from 7-9 pm at Studio 311, 20-36 Danforth St, Portland. 780-1681.

**Holiday Sale** Dec 6 & 7. Maine College of Art students and alumni present a sale of ceramics, sculpture, paintings, metalworks, photography, jewelry, fine art, prints and more. At the Food Court, One City Center, Portland. Dec 6 from 5-8 pm, Dec 7 from 9 am-7 pm. 775-5098.

**Internships** The Danforth Gallery, 34 Danforth St, Portland, seeks interns to coordinate exhibitions and for general gallery management. General work description can be tailored to suit applicant's interests. 775-6245.

**MECA Open House Tours** Come visit Maine College of Art's new studio space at 522 Congress Street. RSVP 775-5098.

**Open Slide Night** The Union of Maine Visual Artists invites artists, craftspeople and anyone interested to attend an open slide night the second Friday of each month at 7:30 pm at Jay York Affordable Photo, 58 Wilnot St, Portland. Bring slides for discussion/feedback. 773-3434.

**Portland Camera Club** holds weekly meeting, Mon at 7:30 pm at the American Legion Hall, 413 Broadway, S. Portland. Monthly events include B&W, color print and color slide competition. 854-3763.

**Portland Chamber of Commerce** is looking for Maine artists to share their work. 772-2811, ext. 223.

**Pottery Classes** for kids and adults offered at Sawyer Street Studios, S. Portland. Costs and times vary. 767-4394.

**Randy Bean Fund** Created in honor of long-time member of Maine Arts Sponsors Association (MASA) Randy Bean, to assist an artist in attending the annual MASA conference. Contributions may be sent to: The MASA Randy Bean Fund, P.O. Box 2352, Augusta, ME 04338. 626-3277.

**Visual Artists and Computer Users** interested in joining a group to "inter-and-intra" the New Millennium can link up at the non-profit Maine artists space, Danforth Gallery, 34 Danforth St, Portland. For more info, call Roland Salazar Rose at 775-6245.

**Young at Art** Judy Faust offers intriguing and unusual classes for kids ages 4-12 at South Portland Recreation, 21 Nelson Rd, So. Portland. "Inventive Gift Making," "Just Jewelry" and "Gifts From Other Countries" for ages 4-12. Cost: \$6. For a free flyer, call Judy Faust at 761-9438. To register, call 767-7650.

## smarts

### events

**Agape Center** for Soul, Community and the Arts, 657 Congress St, Portland, offers discussions and workshops on various topics. "Bioenergetics" offers simple, tension-releasing breathing and movement exercises each Weds from noon-1 pm. Cost \$5. "Circle of Men" meets alternating Fridays 12:15-1:45 pm. "Meditation in Community," with Joan Orr Wadman, meets Wednesdays from 5:30-7 pm. Cost: \$5. "Tibetan Meditation and Study Group" meets the first Sun of the month from 10 am-noon. Donation: \$5. 781-1500.

**Booksigning and Reading** Dec 3. James Dodson reads from his novel "Final Rounds" at Greater Bookland and Cafe, Cook's Corner, Brunswick, from 1-2 pm. 874-2300.

**Center For Maine History** presents a three-part exhibition on the history of Maine Native American carving and basket making. "Growth Rings: 200 Years of Basketry, Carving and Wabanaki Enterprise," "Trees and Tradition: Brown Ash and Maine Native American Basketmaking" and "Spirits in the Wood: Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Root Clubs." 489 Congress St, Portland. 879-0427.

**Children's Book Month Activities** Bookland of Maine celebrates its 13th annual children's book month with activities and booksignings. Nov 30, Meet Debby Atwell, the author and illustrator of "Barn," from 1-2 pm. At Bookland Mill Creek, Mill Creek Shopping Plaza, Portland. Nov 30, Meet the Berenstain Bear, from 11 am-1 pm. 874-2300.

**Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance** at 12 Pleasant St, Brunswick, offers workshops on a regular basis. Dec 7: Authors Holiday Open House with more than 65 Maine authors, from 10 am-3 pm. Preregistration required. Workshops take place at MWPA office unless otherwise noted. 729-6333.

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## volunteer

### events

**Jobs With Justice** A national labor, community and religious coalition dedicated to fighting for the rights of working people, seeks individuals to form a Maine chapter of JWW. 761-9221. E-mail at jfcher@wow.com or bdaddio@biddeford.com.

**Maine Speakout Project for Equal Rights** needs volunteers to do data entry on Macintosh computer several hours weekly. Speakout trains and deploys volunteers to speak to mainstream citizen groups about discrimination in Maine. Cost of training: \$10. No one turned away for lack of funds. At 123 Congress St #1, Portland. 879-0480.

**Toys For Tots** Seaside Nursing and Retirement Home together with Seaside Home Care Services will collect unwrapped toys for tots beginning Dec 1. Donations may be dropped off in the lobby at 850 Baxter Blvd, Portland. If you have questions contact Jacquie Black at 774-7878.

### others

**Flag Disposal** Used, torn or faded American flags that are out of service can be donated to the Libby Mitchell Post #76 of the American Legion in Scarborough. 883-7815.

**Foster Grandparent Program** seeks adults aged 60 and over to offer support and guidance for young parents and children. Benefits including liability insurance, bi-weekly stipend and an annual physical are available for seniors who join. 773-0202.

**Free HIV/AIDS Presentations** available for community groups through the American Red Cross. 874-1192.

**Friends of Feral Felines** A group helping stray cats needs volunteers and homes for orphan kittens. 772-3484.

**Hearts and Horses Therapeutic Riding Center** Broadturf Rd, Scarborough, a non-profit riding center dedicated to providing a quality riding experience for the physically, emotionally and mentally challenged, needs volunteers to lead and side walk. No experience necessary. 883-7102.

**Hospice of Maine** volunteers provide non-medical assistance and support to the terminally ill and their families. Volunteers over age 55 especially needed. If you would like to volunteer or need our services, call 774-4417.

**Hospice of Midcoast Maine** seeks volunteers to help provide care to families coping with terminal illness, grief and bereavement. Next training in the fall. Call to register. 729-3602.

**Hospitality House** seeks a donation of a less than one-year-old computer. 453-2886 or 1-800-438-3890.

**ITW Game Farm and Visitor Center** Shaker Rd, Gray seeks volunteers to work as gate attendants, wandering rangers and tour guides. To register for training, call 657-2055.

**The Maine Audubon Society** is still seeking docents to volunteer at Gislard Farm answering wildlife questions, greeting and assisting sanctuary visitors and helping with program registration. Cheerful, outgoing people with a love of nature are needed. Also volunteers needed for spring and summer to be naturalist guides. Call or stop by Maine Audubon headquarters for an application. 781-2330.

**Maine Poison Center** is a preventative informational resource for families, staffed 24 hours a day for assistance. To receive an informational packet, including phone stickers, or get answers to questions about drugs or medications, call 1-800-442-6305.

**Medical Supplies Volunteer Needed** at Community Health Services, 901 Washington Ave, Ste. 104, Portland. Do you have 3 or more spare hours a week, a willingness to assist in a fast-paced home health agency and an interest in the medical field? Call Dolores Vail, at 775-7231.

**Medicare Cuts** Seniors concerned about cuts in Medicare can call the Senior Coalition to get information about their options. 1-800-273-9009.

**Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services's Buddy Program** seeks volunteers to work one-on-one with persons with HIV/AIDS, their caregivers, partners and family members to provide emotional and practical support. For more info, call Deb Stone at 725-4955, or Getty Payson at 985-8199.

**Opportunity For Change** Interested in working to end domestic violence? This non-profit agency working with batterers seeks volunteers to help in the office and fundraise. If you are interested in fundraising or administrative work, please call 774-4603.

**Plebe Street Resource Center Activities** at 252 Oxford St, Portland, include community meetings Fri at 10 am; writers' group open to anyone Weds from 11-1 pm and art groups open to anyone feeling the urge for creative expression Tues at 11 am. 874-6560.

**Racial Justice Committee** seeks to determine how it can be helpful in addressing justice issues in the community and find groups to collaborate with. Meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:30 pm, at YWCA, 87 Spring St, Portland. 761-3868.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 33

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 Can you believe it?  
 I get out of work and she's standing there with this silly grin on her face, holding a rose. She says it's for our one week anniversary. Yeah, I could get used to this."

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 Call costs \$1.99 per minute. Must be 18 or over.

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December 1 - 29

**Holiday Performances:**  
Christmas Eve Matinee @ 1:00  
December 21, 23, 28 @ 1:00  
December 23 @ 7:30

**Affordable Family Prices:**  
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33

**Raise Guiding Eye Dogs** If you love dogs and want to make a difference in someone's life, volunteer to raise and socialize a puppy in preparation for its formal training to become a guide dog. 729-8031.

**Riding to the Top** A therapeutic horseback riding program needs volunteers to aid children and adults who are physically, mentally and emotionally challenged. At Highland Dressage, Babblidge Rd., West Falmouth. No experience necessary. 829-6780.

**RDD Seeks Volunteers** Resources for the Developmentally Disabled, a supported training and employment program, seeks donations to meet their fundraising goals. Send to: RDD, 66 Pearl St., Suite 212, Portland, Maine, 04101. 789-9575.

**Salvation Army Coats For Kids Program** Drop coats off at Shaw's supermarkets. 774-6304.

**Salvation Army Camp** seeks donations to meet their fundraising goals. Send to: Salvation Army, Camp Sebago, P.O. Box 3647, Portland, ME, 04104.

**Senior Companion Program** Residents aged 60 and older in Cumberland County can help other adults maximize their independence and get involved with people in unique and supportive ways. 780-4205.

**Sexual Assault Response Services** seeks people interested in becoming advocates for victims of sexual assault. No previous experience necessary. 1-800-313-9900.

**Sofa Safari** A unique fundraiser for Visiting Nurse Service's education fund — call for an invitation to an imaginary trip. 1-800-660-4867.

**Surfrider Foundation** seeks ocean-lovers to create a Portland chapter devoted to preserving our shores. If you think you fit the bill call 761-0174.

**Sweetener Children's Services** needs volunteers to work with children with special needs in Brunswick, Portland and Saco. Contact Mary Larson, 284-5981.

**Used Furniture Wanted** The Even Start Family Literacy Program needs couches, chairs and lamps for the Adult & Child Education Center at Sacred Heart School. To donate furniture, call Marie Gray, at 775-0105.

**Veterans Support Services** seek "Angels" to help keep up their free support of Maine veterans and their families. Donate food, paper goods, or money. 871-0911.

**Warm Up with RSVP** The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program for people 55 and older offers meaningful volunteer opportunities to warm your heart. For more info, call Priscilla at 775-6503.

**Women First** The City of Portland's breast and cervical health program seeks peer educators. If you are over 50 and would enjoy learning about breast and cervical health to share information with other women, call Maureen at 874-8784.

**World Heritage** seeks adults to volunteer up to 8 hours per week representing the non-profit WH exchange program. Also seeking local high school students to become WH exchange students abroad and host families for foreign exchange students here in Maine. 1-716-684-7270.

**Youth Build Portland** A community enrichment program designed to assist students obtain their G.E.D. and vocational training and provide low-income housing, seeks volunteers. Experience not necessary. 879-8710.

**Youth Exchange** seeks host families for cultural exchange students, ages 15-18, for a semester or a year. 1-800-848-2121.

**Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance** at 12 Pleasant St., Brunswick, offers workshops on a regular basis. Dec 7: Authors Holiday Open House with more than 65 Maine authors, from 10 am-3 pm. Preregistration required. Workshops take place at MWPA office unless otherwise noted. 729-6333.

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## outdoors

**Appalachian Mountain Club** Features a variety of trips, workshops and facilities. 799-5312.

**Casco Bay Bike Club** offers many local weekday, evening and weekend rides. For everyone from beginners to the seasoned rider. Wed night rides leave from Shop N' Save in Yarmouth at 6 pm. Trip hotline: 828-0918.

**Downeast Ski Club Equipment Sale** Nov 30. New and used ski equipment. Sell your used equipment by registering Nov 29 from 4-8 pm or Nov 30 until noon. At Sullivan Gym, USM Campus, Portland, from 9 am-8 pm. Free. 1-800-879-9272.

**Free Camp for the Blind** Blind residents of Maine are encouraged to attend the National Camps for Blind Children program at Camp Lawrowfield, Weld. Contact Camps for Blind Children. 743-0618.

**H2Outfitters** Offering indoor pool instruction for paddlers of all skill levels and ages. Paddling series, open pool/rolling clinics. Kayak polo. Cost varies. 833-5257.

**Learn to Ski and Snowboard** Portland Parks and Recreation offers ski and snowboard lessons for youth and teens, recreational skiing for youths and a race/bumps program for advanced skiers. Programs include bus transportation. Cost: \$15-\$182. For more info or to register, contact Ted Musgrave at 874-8793.

**Maine Accessible Adventures** is an adventure program for people with and without disabilities. Activities include kayaking, canoeing, archery, rock climbing, downhill skiing and horseback riding. Most events require advance registration. Membership: \$15/year (\$35/year family). 871-2993.

**Maine Audubon Society Gilsland Farm Environmental Center** 118 U.S. Route 1, Falmouth. "Buzzing Bees" stories and activities for preschool-aged kids, followed by a snack. Weds 10-11:30 am. Cost: \$5 (\$4 members) \$3 each additional child (\$2 members). Volunteer rally 2nd Thurs of each month from noon-1 pm. Reservations required. 781-2330.

**Maine Frontrunners** is a gay and lesbian running club that sponsors a weekly run in Portland, Sat at 9 am, at the beginning of the Back Cove Walkway. For more info, call 761-2059.

**Maine Outdoor Adventure Club** meetings are the first Wed of every month at 7 pm at the Unitarian Church, 524 Allen Ave., Portland. MOAC offers hiking, canoeing, backpacking, mountain biking, whitewater rafting, camping and other trips for people of all skill levels. Upcoming: Dec 1, hike Mt. Kearsage; Dec 2, walk at Vaughn Island preserve; Dec 15, walk Scarborough Beach to Prouts Neck. For updated trip info, call hotline at 828-0918.

**Moxie Outdoor Adventures** offers rafting trips in Maine. Discounts to Maine residents. Call for a free brochure. 1-800-666-6943.

**Norumbega Outfitters** 58 Fore St., Bldg 11, Portland, offers a variety of paddling and snow shoeing opportunities for people of all skill levels. 773-0910.

**Portland Pacers** Portland's non-competitive walking group meets Mon-Fri anytime between 11:30 am-1:30 pm. All routes begin and end in Congress Square. Walk a new route every day with varying lengths. Call Portland Public Health at 874-8784.

**So. Me. Sea Kayaking Network** People of all skill levels are invited to join the network for some paddling. 874-2640.

**Ultimate Frisbee** Co-ed Ultimate Frisbee is played 3 days a week in Portland all summer — no experience necessary. 874-2130.

**The Windham Recreation Department** sponsors safety classes open to the public. At the Windham Town Building, Windham. 892-1905.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 40

## SHORT

# Cuts

### Folk & blues & country & stuff

Say what you will about Portland being behind the times, there is something to be said for tradition. Some fine southern Maine bands have drawn strength and direction from the musical traditions of blues, country and folk — not just obvious examples like King



Memphis and Diesel Doug and the Long Haul Truckers, but also the likes of Car and Rumford.

But the list doesn't end there. For the past six years, the Boneheads have been playing great traditional roots rock that borrows from, among other styles, blues, country and folk. The band's latest album, "Words & Things & Numbers & Stuff," is a worthy follow-up to last year's terrific "Donkey."

Produced by the band, "Words..." though more up-tempo than "Donkey," delivers the same off-kilter, working-class rock that Boneheads fans expect. The music has clear antecedents and obvious influences in The Band and Van Morrison, to name a couple. But the music still sounds fresh, because the Boneheads never let their reverence for the past get in the way of a good time, and they never make their music too polished — witness the sloppy, raucous opener "Ice Cream Stand." Their accomplished songwriting stands out on cuts like "Just Like Maggie May's Blues," "Lonesome World," "Someday (Find Our Way)" and "How Now." "Alas," "The Affirmative Song" is on the wrong side of that fine line between stupid and clever. But for the vast majority of the album, the songs are on the clever side, the playing is inspired and the singing is soulful. "Words & Things & Numbers & Stuff" will not disappoint the band's fans, and might win them some new ones.

"Words & Things & Numbers & Stuff" is available at Bull Moose Records for \$10.98 and at Bad Habits for \$10.99.

### Soul food

It wouldn't be unfair to put local singer/songwriter Charlie Schmidt into the same general category as the Boneheads. Like the Boneheads, Schmidt cultivates a traditionalist's perspective on his music (he even got the Boneheads' keyboardist Bob Colwell to play on three songs), but where the Boneheads are a rollicking bar band, Schmidt plays low-key folk rock with songs coming from a deeply personal perspective.

Listening to "Big Mouth Soul," you can hear the influences of the likes of Paul Simon, James Taylor and Crosby, Stills and Nash. Such influences would normally result in musical tedium if it weren't for Schmidt's mostly impressive songwriting and singing. Songs like "These Days," "Bad Memories of You," "Why Henry," "Carnival" and "Blue Train" are intimate without coming across as spineless, and the lyrics are intelligent without being pretentious. The playing by all involved is skilled and effective. However, when the songwriting falters, as it does on "Mary Says" and "While We Go Around," the music comes across as too lightweight to be interesting to all but singer-songwriter aficionados. Still, "Big Mouth Soul" has enough good songs to warrant a listen from anybody.

"Big Mouth Soul" is available at Bull Moose Music for \$10.98.

### Open "C"

A long, long way from roots rock is the New York-based Rex, formerly the Portland-based Otis Coyote. On first listen, the band's new album, "C," seems to back away from the experimentation Rex has become known for; in fact, "C" expands on the band's basic sound. The most exemplary track on the album is the 10-minute "New Son," which starts off like a typical alternative rock track, albeit with a more sophisticated melody and in waltz time. Halfway through, though, it transforms into a sublime mix of lush string melodies and the clattering polyrhythms of miscellaneous percussion. It is that tension between the familiar and the obscure that gives "C" its fascinating strength.

"C" is available through Southern Records, P.O. Box 25529, Chicago IL 60625. (312) 463-3796.

■ DAN SHORT

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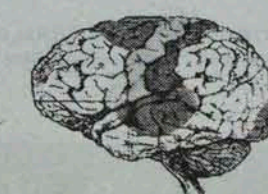
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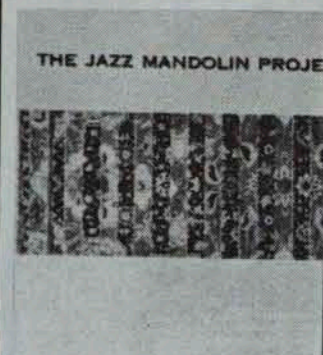
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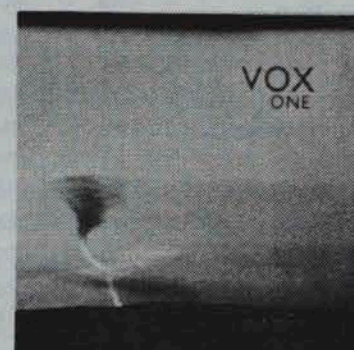


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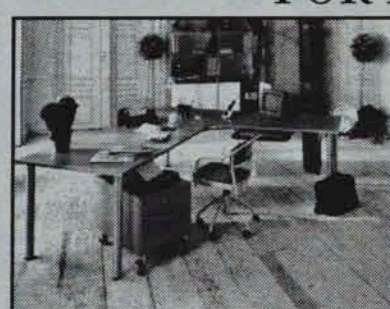
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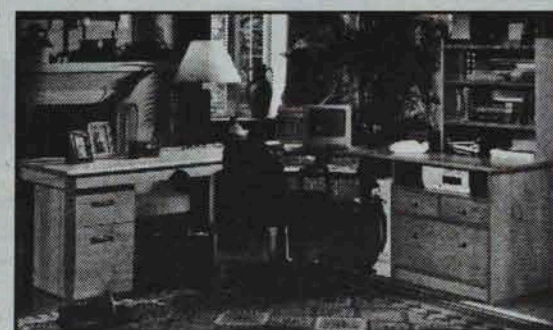
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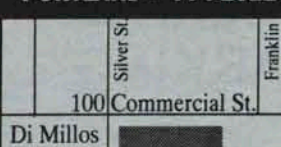


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# Don't look in the basement

Boy wants girl, girl rejects boy, boy kidnaps girl: **CBW** reviews the premiere of "Reindeer Games"



Beauty and the beast: Mary Skinner and Kyle Rankin as captive and captor in "Reindeer Games"

■ DAVID KOCIEMBA

For a low-budget independent film to be successful, it helps to have at least one of three things: a compelling story, an interesting way of telling that story or great chemistry between the actors. As recent low-budget (as least by Hollywood standards) releases like "Daughters of the Dust," "The Spitfire Grill" or Vermont filmmaker John O'Brien's "Man With A Plan" prove, a dearth of money need not be an impediment to inspired filmmaking.

But low-budget also doesn't guarantee inspired filmmaking, which is the case with "Reindeer Games," a locally made feature film that debuted last weekend at the Portland Museum of Art. Shot this summer in Portland on a budget of \$35,000, "Reindeer Games" is the brainchild of Shayne Worcester, Kyle Rankin and Efram Potelle, a trio of young filmmakers dedicated to the noble-but-difficult proposition of regional moviemaking. ("Reindeer Games" has been submitted to The Sundance Film Festival; selections will be announced Dec. 2.) As lofty as their ambitions may be, though, "Reindeer Games" is at best a mediocre first effort, one which fails to score on story, style or acting chemistry.

"Reindeer Games" is a psychological drama in which Alec (Rankin), a dishwasher, kidnaps a fellow employee, a waitress named Kate (Mary Skinner), after an awkward and disastrous date. Alec keeps Kate tied to a chair in the dingy basement of the house he shares with his addled grandmother (Muriel Kenderdine). Alec doesn't want to rape

Kate; sex for Alec is akin to trauma, which we learn through a series of flashbacks from his childhood, when his family was brutalized on Christmas eve by a trio of thugs (led by a bug-eyed Michael Kimball) dressed, oddly, in Santa suits.

It's unclear, in fact, just what's motivating Alec, aside from some vague compulsion to keep Kate. He hangs a baby monitor near her chair to listen in on her; in a comic moment, Kate responds by bombarding him with an hours-long torrent of obscenities. He patiently takes care of all of Kate's needs, even washing her after she has her period. Near the end of the film, Alec uses Kate to reenact his childhood brutalization, but questions about his motivations remain. What, for example, triggers his extreme reaction to Kate's rejection? What are the connections between his childhood incident and his plans for Kate? Too much of what Alec does seems to come out of the blue, and the result is a story that feels loose and incomplete.

The fatal flaw of "Reindeer Games" is the filmmakers' inability to create much of a bond between captor and captive, which is crucial for the hostage genre to work. Rankin's affectless acting comes across, not as intense, but as merely dull; he seems out of his league as the film's male lead, especially against the mercurial performance of Skinner, a professional actress from New York City. As a result, Skinner's scenes with Rankin feel like monologues, as Alec steadily fades into the woodwork while the feisty, sarcastic Kate becomes increasingly compelling, despite being lashed to her chair. (In a gratuitous confession, Kate does tell

Alec of a dream she has that reminds her of her rape as a teen, but he isn't even listening; he's turned off the baby monitor.) In Skinner and Kenderdine, the film has two actors capable of developing the ensemble chemistry that might have redeemed "Reindeer Games," but their efforts, strong as they are, remain isolated bright spots.

Director Worcester does a capable, workmanlike job of filming the story, but his style isn't marked by any particular flair or ingenuity. Some of the shots of Alec's hallucinations and flashbacks

are intriguing, but other key scenes lack the necessary zing. In one scene, Alec tries to have sex with a prostitute in a back room at Zootz, only to see his mother's face. The scene isn't shocking the way it might have been, however; perhaps a faster and tighter closeup on the mother's face, or filming the Zootz scene from Alec's perspective, would have made the shot more surprising.

Not all is gloom and doom, however. The film has numerous comic moments, many of them the result of Kate's wry wit and sharp tongue. Even the normally stunned-looking Alec gets in on the act; when a pair of mother-son Jesus freaks knocks on his door and asks him "Are you with Jesus?" he replies, deadpan, "Right now?" In a particularly startling scene, an unhinged Alec sheds his clothes and walks naked through the restaurant, then proceeds out into the broad daylight of Exchange Street.

"Reindeer Games," which will play at The Movies later this winter, is being hailed by its makers, as well as by others in the Maine film community, as the birth of Maine feature-filmmaking. Yes, the film is markedly better than "Dorm," Rankin and Potelle's earlier feature-length video project. But single-handedly jump-starting a regional film industry is a lot of pressure to put on these inexperienced filmmakers, or for them to put on themselves. The most they or anyone can expect is incremental improvement from project to project, and a willingness to stick to their vision. To that end, "Reindeer Games" is as good a place as any to start. **CBW**

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**INTERESTING FACTS**  
 by Frank Gaziano

A piece of wood called a "two-by-four" is really NOT two inches by four inches. Its actual size is one-and-five-eighths inches thick by three-and-five-eighths inches wide. The reason is that lumber is measured before it's seasoned and planed, so finished boards are smaller than the dimensions.

Contrary to popular opinion, bagpipes did NOT originate in Scotland, but in the Middle East.

The expression "long in the tooth" — meaning someone who is old — came from the fact that as horses get older their teeth do indeed grow longer.

Surprisingly, the U.S. state that gets the most rain is — of all places — Hawaii, which averages about 70 inches of rain a year.

And here's another interesting fact... At the turn of the century Adolphus Busch began a tradition of brewing special beers for the holiday season. Anheuser Busch is proud to continue this tradition with a limited bottling of their 1996 Special Winter Brew. They have brewed this beer to be a rich, flavorful lager that's perfect for the celebrations of the season. Gerhardt A. Kraemer, head brewmaster. Now available everywhere!

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- JOHN MELLENCAMP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 34

**Wolfe's Neck State Park** 106 Wolfe Neck Rd. Freeport, holds nature programs Sat and Sun from 2-3 p.m. 865-4465.

## family

### events

**Children's Museum of Maine** 142 Free St. Portland, offers exhibits, clubs and activities for kids of all ages. Weekly Fun: "Light and Camera Obscura," Wed and Fri at 11 am and 11:30 am, Sat at 2 pm and 2:30 pm, "Oh! Zones," fun-filled "make & take" projects, Wed-Sat 11 am-noon and 2-3 pm, Sun 2-3 pm. Pre-registration and additional fees required for some programs. 828-1234.

**Creative Resource Center** 1103 Forest Ave. Portland, hosts free art fun for kids. Dec 5, 12 and 19: "Gingerbread Paper Decorations" from 3-4 pm. 797-9543.

**Kids First USM's** Muskie Institute offers a 4-hour workshop for divorcing parents to focus on kids' needs before, during and after divorce. Next session: Dec 7. Cost: \$45. Call for location and time. 780-5833.

## health

### events

**La Leche League** of Yarmouth provides info and aid to pregnant and breastfeeding women through telephone help, monthly meetings and a lending library. Morning group meets Dec 4 at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodfords St. Portland, at 9:30 am. Call Ashley at 773-6985 or Marcia at 797-5121.

### others

**Adult Children of Alcoholics** A 12-step group meeting, Saturdays at 5:30 pm, at Seventy-Five State Street, 75 State St. Portland. 767-6232.

**Adult Female Survivors of Sexual Abuse** A support group for adult women who are survivors of incest and/or child sexual abuse is being offered by Sexual Assault Response Services of Southern Maine. To register, contact Anne Marie at 774-3613.

**Adult Health Clinic** Visiting Nurse Service, 15 Industrial Park Rd. Saco, holds health clinics for adults on an ongoing basis. Screening includes blood pressure and blood sugar monitoring, hemocults, tuberculosis testing, tetanus vaccination and routine foot care. Open to those 18 and older. 284-4566.

**Adult Immunization and Health Screening Clinic** sponsored by the Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice, the third Tuesday of every month from 1-4 pm at 50 Foden Rd. S. Portland. Offering blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol checks, TB skin tests, hepatitis B vaccine, measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine, tetanus/diphtheria vaccine, flu vaccine (seasonal) and pneumonia vaccine to adults age 18 and older. 780-8624.

**Agape** 657 Congress St. Portland. "Meditation in Community" meets Wed with a lesson at 5:15 pm, sitting at 5:45 pm, and Dharma talk at 6:15 pm. Cost: \$5. Cost: \$80-\$120. 780-1500.

**Alliance for Mentally Ill of Maine Friends and Family** offers a support group for family members the fourth or last Tuesday of every month from 7-9 pm, at St. Dominic's Parish Hall, 42 Gray St. Portland. 797-5430.

**"Alexander Technique"** Postural, joint, movement problems? Free evaluations by Maria Jackson Parker, certified teacher. Fridays at On Balance, 4 Milk St. Portland. 729-0839.

**American Holistic Nurses Association** Offers informational talks on alternative approaches to health care. At the Dana Center Auditorium, from 6:30-8 pm. 846-9427.

**Arthritis Foundation Aquatics Program** A warm-water gentle exercise program for increasing range of motion is held Mon and Wed from 3:45 pm, at Sheraton Tara Hotel, 363 Maine Mall Rd. So. Portland. Cost: \$35 for 11 classes. Call to register 775-6161. Also Mon, Wed, Fri from 1:15-2:00 pm, at the YWCA, 87 Spring St. Portland. Cost: \$50 for 10 weeks. 874-1130.

**Arthritis Programs** Arthritis Foundation's Maine Chapter sponsors various programs including support groups, land exercise programs and warm-water aquatic exercise programs, as well as workshops for people with fibromyalgia. 773-0695.

**Birthing Pregnancy Services** 562 Congress St. Portland. Catholic Charities of Maine provides positive support to any woman and her family experiencing an untimely pregnancy. Services include: pregnancy testing, emotional support and post-abortion support. Free and confidential. 871-7464.

**The Birthplace** at Mercy Hospital, 144 State St. Portland, offers tours usually the 1st and 3rd Mon of every month. Tours are also available by arrangement. Free. 879-3550.

**Brain Tumor Support Group** meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at the Guild Hall of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 317 Congress St. Portland. 727-3556 or 934-0135.

**Breastfeeding Center of Maine** offers the course "breastfeeding and the working mom," the second Tues of the month at 101 State St. Portland, from 6:30-8 pm. Pre-registration required. Cost: \$15. 775-6455.

**Walk-In Health Service** at Mercy Hospital, 144 State St. Portland. Mercy "ExpressCare" on the first floor provides care for minor illnesses and injuries that don't require extensive tests or treatment. Intended for patients with colds, flu symptoms, ear aches, sprains and other minor injuries. Hours: daily noon-8 pm. 879-3432.

**Well Child Clinic** Community Health Services offers physical exams, immunizations, lead/anemia testing and vision testing, the last Wednesday of every month at Westbrook-Warren Congregational Church, Main St. Westbrook, and the third Friday of every month at the Eight Corners School, Mussey Road, Scarborough. Medicaid clients welcome, sliding fee scale available. 893-1500 or 1-800-479-4331.

## etc

### events

**Bisexual Discussion and Support Group** Meets the first and third Wed of each month at Payson Smith Hall, room 1, USM Campus, Portland, from 7:30-9 pm. Students and nonstudents welcome. For more info, call 780-5737 or email: sholmes@maine.maine.edu.

**Blumfest Seeks Talented Teens** Blunt, Portland's own teen-run radio show seeks teens to perform and compete for spots in New Year's Portland. Competitive categories include music, poetry and storytelling. All acts must be between ages 13-19. Entry deadline: Nov 30. For an application, call Maine Arts at 772-9012.

**"Christmas at the Victoria Mansion"** Nov 30-Dec 18. A special holiday exhibition by Portland High School students explores decorative arts of the Victorian era. Dec 2: Ken Linaberry speaks about Victorian Christmas ornaments, at the Danforth Inn, 173 Danforth St. Portland, at 5:30 pm followed by a tour of the mansion. Cost: \$15. Dec 5: Mansion wine and cheese party from 6-8 pm. Cost: \$15. Dec 14 & 15: Victorian Doll Parties. Celebrate with tea, your favorite doll, a craft and a tour of the mansion. At the Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St. Portland. Seatings at 1 pm & 3 pm. Cost: \$15. Tours daily at the Victoria Mansion, 109 Danforth St. Portland. Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sun 11 am-5 pm. Fri Sat 11 am-8 pm. Admission: \$6 (\$2 kids). 772-4841.

**Hospice Tree Lighting** Dec 1. Community Health Services celebrates its 3rd annual "Tree of Life," remembering loved ones who have died. Music and hot chocolate. At 901 Washington Ave. Portland, from 4-5 pm. 775-7231.

**Make-a-Wish Foundation Dream Playhouse '96** On display at the Maine Mall, So. Portland Nov 27 through Dec 22. Visitors can buy chances to win the dream playhouse. Ticket: \$2 (\$3 for \$5). 236-3171.

**Pitching Clinics** The USM softball program holds weekly clinics instructed by Husky pitching coach George Roberts and head coach Bonny Brown-Denico for all interested players beginning Dec 8. Sessions run Sun from 9-10 am. Cost: \$10 per session (\$90 for 10 weeks). Proceeds benefit USM softball program. 780-5519.

**Rotary Christmas Tree Sale** Nov 29-Dec 20 (or until sold out). At Mill Creek Park, So. Portland, from 9 am-9 pm. Dec 14 & 15: free hot cider and donuts. Prices: \$25, \$30 & \$35. 767-4682.

**Seasons of Light** Dec 6-30. USM's Southworth Planetarium's holiday show traces the development of the world's holiday customs and the historical rituals associated with the winter solstice. Fri & Sat 7 pm, Sat & Sun 3 pm. At 96 Falmouth St. Portland. Cost: \$4 (\$3 kids). 780-4249.

**Speakout Engagement Calendar** The 1997 engagement calendar with local photographers documenting Maine Lesbian/Gay culture is on sale as a fundraiser for the Maine Speakout project. Send check or money order to Maine Speakout Project, 123 Congress St #1, Portland, Me 04101. Speakout is an educational project dealing with homophobia. For more info, call 879-0480.

**Swimming Lessons** The YWCA begins a new session of swim lessons Dec 2. Registrations run through Nov 27, from 9 am-7 pm. At 87 Spring St. Portland. 874-1130.

**Teen AIDS Line** Teens educating teens about HIV and AIDS. Information, referral to community services and support. Wed from 6-9 pm. Call 775-1267 or 1-800-851-AIDS.

**Wescott Junior High Thanksgiving Harvest of Crafts** Nov 30 & Dec 1. Sponsored by Society of Southern Maine Craftsmen and Wescott Junior High PTSA. At Wescott Junior High School, 426 Bridge St. Westbrook. Nov 30 from 9 am-4 pm, Dec 1 from 10 am-3 pm. 854-0830.

**World AIDS Day Mass** Dec 1. Dignity/Maine, the lesbian/gay Catholics group, holds a supportive mass for lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgendered Catholics and their friends and families, as well as anyone affected by HIV and AIDS. At St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St. Portland, from 6-7 pm. Coffee and dessert will be offered after the service. For more info, contact Janet or Rosemary at 646-2820 or write to: Dignity/Maine, P.O. Box 8113, Portland, Me 04104-8113.

### others

**Abuse in Intimate Relationships** A support group for women who have previously or are presently experiencing abuse in their intimate relationships. Free and confidential. childcare provided. 874-1973.

**Accent Reduction Class** for speakers of English as a second language, as well as classes for neutralizing Maine and regional accents, with Jean Armstrong, certified speech and language pathologist. 879-1886.

**The Alliance for Transportation Choice**, a group dedicated to creating a transportation system that improves the quality of life, protects the environment and promotes economic vitality, meets the 3rd Tues of each month at 5 pm, at 477 Congress St. 8th floor, Portland. 879-1892.

**The American Singles Golf Association** is forming a Portland chapter. If you would like to help organize or join, call 1-800-599-2815.

**Authentic Movement Group For Men** A group for men who wish to "explore who we are beneath our roles and conditioning," meets the third Thurs of each month from 6:30-9 pm, at Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St. Portland. Facilitated by Jim Davidson. 879-1341.

**Casco Bay Culinary Association** meets the second Mon of each month. 799-2234 or 774-4308.

**Center For Maine History** 489 Congress St. Portland. Hours: Wed-Sat noon-4 pm. Cost: \$2 (\$1 kids). 879-0427.

**Circle of Hope** Metropolitan Community Church of Portland, a Christian group that claims a primary ministry with gay and lesbian people and strives to be inclusive of all, meets Saturdays at 4 pm at 156 High St. Portland. 775-6684.

**COPE** Support group for divorcing fathers — explore alternatives to the current divorce process. 874-7448.

**Coping With Caregiving** A support group for people providing care to chronically/terminally ill or disabled persons meets the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month at noon, at Mercy Hospital, 144 State St. Portland. 879-3486.

**Creating Opportunity Through Change** Women's group meets Thursday evenings from 6-7:30 at 854 Broadway, S. Portland. 767-1315.

**Creative Productions Collaborative** A group for women survivors of sexual abuse who are interested in furthering their healing journeys through the process of creating and presenting a production in the form of books, videos or performance art. Confidential, facilitated meetings are Wednesdays from 6:30-8 pm. Cost: \$15 per session. 774-2403.

**Debtors' Anonymous** meets every Tues from 7-8:15 pm at Woodford's Congregational Church, 202 Woodford St. Portland. 774-4357.

**Demo Tapes Wanted** Robbins Entertainment seeks original rap, dance, R&B and alternative rock bands for a new record label. Send materials to: Robbins Entertainment, Jonathan P. Fine, 30 West 21st St 11th Fl., New York, NY, 10010-6905.

**Dharma Study Group** Sitting meditation on Sundays from 9 am-noon. At the office of Sandra Bulley, 3rd floor, 60 Forest Ave. Portland. 761-0047.

**Donations Needed** The Ted Rand Memorial Scholarship Fund, which will be awarded annually to a Casco Bay Island student going on to higher education, seeks contributions to help establish the fund. Send contributions to: 4 Moulton St. Portland, ME 04101. For more info, call Dave Redmond at 871-1001 or 766-4444.

**Dream Group** Interested in weaving dreams into life myths? Join a group that will feed your imagination, writing skills, storytelling abilities and teach you something about your personal story and journey. Facilitated by a licensed counselor. Schedule will be set by participants at initial meeting. To join, call the Swedenborgian Church at 772-8277 and leave your name, specify "dream group."

**Enriched Golden Age Center** 297 Cumberland Ave. Portland, invites men and women over 60 to daily luncheons, with special activities featured every Wednesday and line dancing every Monday at 10 am. Donation: \$2.50. 774-6374.

**Expose Yourself** WBOR 91.1 FM in Brunswick is looking for performers who want to be heard live on the radio. All styles are welcome. "Exposure" broadcasts every Sun from 7-8 pm. 798-5177.

**Family Crisis Shelter** a domestic abuse intervention project is looking for volunteers to offer support and information to victims of abuse/violence. 874-1196.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 52

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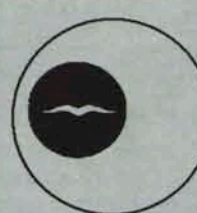
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# moVies



Trekkies rejoice: Captain Picard (Patrick Stewart) and his posse defend the universe from evil, again, in **STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT**.

**BEAUTIFUL THING** A complicated tale of courtship, love and family strife from British director Hettie MacDonald, "Beautiful Thing" is just the sort of film to see when you're feeling self-absorbed. The story follows two teenage boys, classmates and neighbors, who flirt with a relationship amidst the drama of their everyday lives. The Village Voice called "Beautiful Thing" both unsentimental and sweet, "a hugely tender-hearted picture."

**THE ENGLISH PATIENT** Based on Michael Ondaatje's acclaimed novel, "The English Patient" traces two love stories, one in late-'30s Cairo between a count (Ralph Fiennes) and a British aristocrat's wife (Kristin Scott Thomas) and the other in mid-'40s Italy between a Canadian nurse (Juliette Binoche) and a dying English minesweeper (Naveen Andrews).

**THE FIRST WIVES CLUB** Sick and tired of being treated like yesterday's news, three ex-wives join forces to seek revenge on the men who wronged them and the bimbos in the line of fire. With Bette Midler, Goldie Hawn and Diane Keaton.

**FLY AWAY HOME** A teenager (played by Academy Award winner Anna Paquin) recovers from the grief of her mother's unexpected death in the company of her estranged father (Jeff Daniels). A diversion appears in the form of a stranded nest of Canada goose eggs. Soon she must teach the gaggle to do goose things. Seems the geese think she's their mama. Also starring Jeff Daniels. Directed by Carroll Ballard ("The Black Stallion").

**JINGLE ALL THE WAY** With a cast this stacked—Arnold Schwarzenegger, Phil Hartman, Sinbad, Rita Wilson and James Belushi—can the plot really matter? Anyway, Arnold plays a mattress salesman who wants to outdo his supercilious next-door neighbor (Hartman) by giving his own son the ultimate Christmas gift. What might that gift be? A Turbo Man doll.

**LONE STAR** The buzz surrounding John Sayles' newest film, about a Texas sheriff's quest to solve a 39-year-old murder case, makes you wonder why more people aren't making Westerns these days. Kris Kristofferson lends his bad-ass persona to the story. With Chris Cooper and Matthew McConaughey.

**MAGIC HUNTER** After accidentally shooting a hostage rather than her captor, a police marksman in Budapest finds his skills under question. As he deals with the task of proving himself on the firing range, a fellow officer bestows him with a gift: a handful of magic bullets. What he doesn't know is that the last bullet will only hit a target of the devil's choosing. In this daring blend of the mystical and realistic, director Lidlo Enyedi takes us on a journey

back and forth from the Middle Ages to present day.

**MARS ATTACKS!** Tim Burton ("A Nightmare Before Christmas") has concocted a spoozy, twisted sci-fi comedy to temper the seriousness of last summer's alien invasion. Jack Nicholson divides his talents as both the commander-in-chief and a Las Vegas real-estate hustler. Also starring Glenn Close, Michael J. Fox, Annette Bening, Sarah Jessica Parker and Martin Short.

**MICHAEL COLLINS** Liam Neeson carries this 1920s biopic about the Irish icon who built the I.R.A. and helped Ireland win its independence. Director Neil Jordan keeps the pace brisk, painting the complex political and moral issues surrounding this period in Irish history in black and white. When Neeson and Aidan Quinn are busy undermining British imperialism, this decision makes for an exciting film. But Julia Roberts, unfortunately cast as the pair's love interest, halts any momentum that Jordan manages to create.

**THE MIRROR HAS TWO FACES** Once upon a time, love wasn't a prerequisite for marriage. People married to have someone around who'd help keep house and share a meal. Jeff Bridges' passionless college professor tries to resurrect that bygone era in a marriage of companionship with his brainy-not-beautiful colleague, played by Barbara Streisand. Problem is, she's hot for him. And when her aging beauty of a mother (played by aging beauty Lauren Bacall) convinces her a makeover could change her life, things heat up.

**101 DALMATIANS** Glenn Close no doubt draws on her previous evil-wench roles to bring to life the queen of mean Cruella De Vil in this live action remake of the classic children's tale. Joely Richardson and Jeff Daniels play house as the nicey-nice couple with an extra-large litter of Dalmatian pups that Cruella wants to make into her new fall line.

**RANSOM** Mel Gibson plays Tom Mullen, a super-successful Manhattan businessman who does things his own way. When his only son is abducted by criminals who demand big bucks for his return, Mullen has no intention of letting them get away with it, nor does he plan to do as the feds advise him to. Much to the chagrin of his wife (Rene Russo) and the law (Gary Sinise and Delroy Lindo), Mullen takes to the airwaves, threatening his son's

captives.

**ROMEO AND JULIET** Baz Luhrmann and Craig Pearce's hardcore, gang-banging adaptation of the classic story of star-crossed lovers has all the marks of a Gen X sensation. Starring hip-kid stars Claire Danes and Leonardo DiCaprio as the tragic couple, Luhrmann set the tale in a Florida fantasy-world where haute-style, fancy handguns and gang rivalry are all the rage. It's Shakespearean tragedy à la Quentin Tarantino. Also starring John Leguizamo, Jessica Lange and Paul Rudd.

**SLEEPERS** Four men (Brad Pitt, Jason Patric, Billy Crudup and Ron Eldard) seek revenge for the physical and psychological abuse they suffered as boys from a guard while doing time in a juvenile reformatory for a prank. The presence of Kevin Bacon as the doomed guard with such luminaries as Robert De Niro and Dustin Hoffman ensures yet another batch of the party game "Six Degrees of Kevin Bacon" in dorms everywhere.

**STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT** Bald and beautiful Captain Picard (Patrick Stewart) leads his "Next Generation" crew in the newest big screen Trek adventure. They fight to prevail over their arch-enemy, the evil, heartless Borg. Also starring Alice Krige as the Borg queen.

**SYNTHETIC PLEASURES** Your attempts to escape reality by slugging a few shots of Scotch will seem like good therapy after watching the exploits of those in Lara Lee's documentary look into a world of escapist possibilities. Entertaining, smart and scary, "Synthetic Pleasures" visits, among other things, a huge indoor beach with artificial sun and waves in Japan, the French performance artist Orlan who continually manipulates her face through plastic surgery and American bartenders who peddle "smart drinks" that alter your mood and possibly your mind.

## movie times

Owing to scheduling changes after CBW goes to press, moviegoers are advised to confirm times with theaters.

Nickelodeon, Temple and Middle streets, Portland.  
772-9751.

**TIMES NOT AVAILABLE WHEN CBW WENT TO PRESS**

General Cinemas, Maine Mall, Maine Mall Road,  
So. Portland, 774-1022.

**TIMES GOOD NOV 27 THROUGH DEC 5**  
**THE ENGLISH PATIENT (R)**  
12:45, 3:55, 7, 10

**MARS ATTACKS (PG)**  
7 (SAT ONLY)

**STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT (PG-13)**  
1:20, 1:45, 3:50, 4:15, 7, 7:30, 9:30, 9:50

**MIDNIGHT (WED & THURS ONLY)**  
**SPACE JAM (PG)**

12:50, 1:15, 2:55, 3:20, 5, 5:25, 7:05, 7:30, 9:10

**RANSOM (R)**

1:15, 1:45, 4, 4:25, 7 (EXCEPT SAT), 7:20, 9:25, 9:45

**MIDNIGHT (WED & THURS ONLY)**

**SLEEPERS (R)**

9:35

Hyatt Clark's Pond, 333 Clark's Rd., So. Portland.  
879-1511.

**TIMES NOT AVAILABLE WHEN CBW WENT TO PRESS**

The Movies, 10 Exchange St., Portland, 772-9600.

**SYNTHETIC PLEASURES (NR)**

NOV 27-30 • WED-TUES 5:15 • SAT 1, 5:15, 9:30

**LONE STAR (R)**

NOV 27-30 • WED-TUES 8:45 • SAT 2:45, 7

**MAGIC HUNTER (NR)**

DEC 1-3 • SUN 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 • MON-TUES 5, 7, 9

**BEAUTIFUL THING (R)**

DEC 4-10 • WED-FRI 5, 7, 9 • SAT-SUN 1, 5, 9

MON-TUES 7

FLAGSHIP CINEMAS, 206 U.S. ROUTE 1, FALMOUTH.  
781-5616.

**TIMES GOOD NOV 27 THROUGH DEC 5**  
**101 DALMATIANS (G)**

11:30 (FRI, SAT & SUN ONLY), 12:30, 1:45, 3:20,  
4:15, 6:40, 7:05, 9:10, 9:30

**STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT (PG-13)**  
12:15, 2:35, 4:55, 7:20, 9:35

**JINGLE ALL THE WAY (PG)**

1:15, 3:10, 5, 7:30, 9:25

**THE MIRROR HAS TWO FACES (PG-13)**

1:10, 3:45, 7, 9:30

**SPACE JAM (PG)**

12:50, 2:55, 5:10, 7:10, 9:05

**RANSOM (R)**

1, 1:35, 3:35, 4:05, 6:50, 7:20, 9:20, 9:45

**ROMEO AND JULIET (PG-13)**

1:45, 4:25, 7:15, 9:40

**MICHAEL COLLINS (R)**

7:15, 9:50 (NOV 22-26 ONLY) \*

**FLY AWAY HOME (PG)**

NOV 22-26 12:45, 3, 5:10 • NOV 27-28 1:55, 4:25

**THE FIRST WIVES CLUB (PG)**

1:20, 3:55, 7:15, 9:25 (NOV 22-26 ONLY)

**SLEEPERS (R)**

NOV 22-26 1, 3:50, 6:45, 9:35 • NOV 27-28 6:45, 9:35

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## The 12 Videos of Christmas

by Robert David Sullivan

Not too many years ago, everyone was at the mercy of the big three television networks, which provided us with a few splashy variety shows and kids' cartoons every December. Now you can design your own holiday TV season by going to the video store, where most of the classics are both for rent and for sale. Check out, also, the record chains such as Strawberries, or try order-by-phone catalogues such as Critics' Choice Video, at (800) 367-7765. It promises seven-day delivery.

The following holiday TV classics (we're not concerning ourselves with movies, like "It's a Wonderful Life," are available on video. But don't forget to have the "TV Guide" handy if you want true kitsch. Stuff like "A Very Brady Christmas" isn't available on video; it must lose something without commercials.

### The 12 Videos of Christmas

• "The Honeymooners: 'Twas the Night Before Christmas." For any kid accustomed to post-1970 sitcoms, the Kramdens' minimalist kitchen can be unsettling. I was always hoping to catch a glimpse of their bedroom to see if it could possibly match the dreariness of the room where they actually entertained guests. This 1950s episode borrows from O. Henry's short story "The Gift of the Magi," and did so before every sitcom imaginable did its own version of "A Christmas Carol." It's not one of the better episodes, but it sure beats a "Full House."

• "Santa Claus Conquers the Martians." This legendary bomb, made in 1964, can be found in the "Cult" section at video stores, near "Plan 9 from Outer Space." Santa is abducted by Martians who are positively green with envy when they learn that Earthlings have a crypto-religious icon who encourages massive consumer spending. A very young Pia Zadora plays one of the Martian tots.

• "A Charlie Brown Christmas." First shown in 1965, this is the "Casablanca" of Christmas specials. See it once and you can remember almost every line and piece of music, as well as the sound effect used when Charlie hangs a single bulb on his pathetic tree and it droops to the floor ("I've killed it!"). The score, by Vince Guaraldi, is also available on CD.

• "A Christmas Story" (1983). This was released as a theatrical movie, but without the elaborate slapstick of "Home Alone," it achieved popularity only when it hit the rerun circuit on TV. Set in the 1940s, it's about a little kid obsessed with getting a BB gun for Christmas. Among its many life lessons: don't stick your tongue on a metal pole when it's freezing out. The filmmaking isn't kitschy, but "A Christmas Story" deserves mention here for its honest depiction of one of the tackiest gifts ever seen: a lamp in the form of a shapely woman's leg clad in a fishnet stocking.

• "Black Adder: A Christmas Carol." This is a time-skipping version of the Dickens' classic using characters from Rowan Atkinson's British TV series, which spans

several centuries. The wordplay will go over the heads of most children and a lot of adults.

• "The Simpsons Christmas Special." This 1989 special was actually the pilot for the still-running series. Homer louses up another holiday, and Bart makes things worse. A great leap forward in the content, if not the style, of TV animation.

• "A Christmas Gift." This obscure offering is a collection of eight cartoons from the National Film Board of Canada. "The Great Toy Robbery" has Santa held up by a gang in the Wild West. "The Energy Carol," which was co-produced by the Office of Energy Conservation and the Department of Energy Mines and Resources, depicts "Ebenezer Stoooge" as a power company exec who showers his employees with useless appliances and Christmas bonuses so they'll use more juice.

• "Ren & Stimpy's Stinky Little Christmas." So it's come to this. The cat (whatever his name is) spends the Christmas season looking for his first fart, which is apparently still floating around as a little cloud with a face. Let's see Beavis and Butt-head top this one.

• "The Little Drummer Boy." God, what a weepie! Made in 1968 (when you could still be unabashedly religious on network television) it features the voices of Greer Garson, Jose Ferrer, and the Vienna Boys Choir.

• "The Year Without A Santa Claus." This 1974 animated special has some silly plot about Santa feeling unappreciated and deciding to sit Christmas out. It's best-known for the show-stopping "Heimelmeister" and "Snowmeister" numbers, in which Mother Nature's bratty sons brag about wreaking havoc with the weather and scream, "I'm too much!" Their gleeful self-centeredness is an oasis during a month of specials in which teary little snots sing about their little drums. Unfortunately, the siblings shape up and agree to some plot, involving a freak snowstorm, to cheer-up Santa. (Wasn't this story line ripped off from "The Beverly Hillbillies"?)

• "How the Grinch Stole Christmas." Bugs Bunny director Chuck Jones brought this Dr. Seuss tale to TV in 1966. The deliciously evil Grinch, a second cousin to Wile E. Coyote, strips Whoville of all its Christmas decorations and gifts, and is stunned to see everyone enjoy the holiday anyway. Casting horror-film star Boris Karloff as the narrator was a nice touch.

• "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer." This 1964 special fleshes out the skimpy Rudolph song with cute characters such as an elf who wants to be a dentist and a Mrs. Claus who goads Santa like a Jewish mother would: "Eat, Papa! Eat!" The songs are especially versatile and can be enjoyed straight or as parodies—my siblings and I used to sing Burl Ives' "Silver and Gold" as "Mildew and Mold."

Reprint from *Boston Phoenix*

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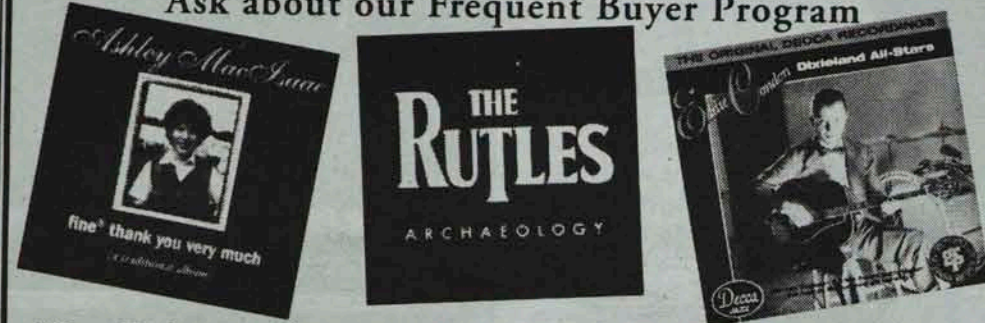
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## Multicultural Holiday Dinner

by Marge Snyder and Suzanne Breckenridge

This Christmas, put family routines aside. Pass up Aunt Ida's marshmallow salad and celebrate the season with a menu that crosses cultures and offers new versions of old favorites. To make it easier on the cook, we've included dishes that can be prepared in several steps, over several days, with the help of several people.

In many cultures, fish plays a major role in the Christmas meal. At the top of our menu, in a nod toward tradition, we've included a Caribbean seafood appetizer served with a spicy salsa. The main dish is an old English favorite—standing rib roast with Yorkshire pudding. This specialty dates back to the Middle Ages and is practical when you have many guests to serve, particularly very hungry ones. Timing is crucial in the preparation of this dish. The beef should be slightly pink inside, not medium-well, and your guests should be finishing their first course (an Italian pasta dish) when you present the roast for dramatic table-side carving.

The side dishes that accompany the beef are festive, colorful and full of unusual flavors. The tart yogurt carrots seem to tame the rich flavor of the beef and the soufflé-like Yorkshire Pudding. And to add textural interest as well as refreshing taste, we've included a Mexican Christmas Eve salad with peanuts and jicama (HEE-kah-mah), a sweet, brown, round root vegetable with a crisp texture much like a water chestnut.

Of course, the point of any feast is dessert, and in this case, the piece de resistance draws from traditional German Christmas food. We've combined apples and nuts into a delicious apple mincemeat tart. Happy holidays.

**Caribbean Seafood Fritters:** 1/2 lb. uncooked shrimp, peeled, deveined, chopped; 1/2 lb. uncooked scallops, chopped in large dice; 1/2 c. finely minced celery; 1/2 c. finely minced onion; 2 tbs. lime juice; 2-4 tbs. jalapenos, finely chopped; 2 tbs. tomato paste; 1/4-1/2 tsp. cayenne; 1/2 tsp. salt; 2 c. flour; 1 tsp. baking powder; 1/2-1 c. water; oil for frying; cranberry salsa (recipe follows). Mix seafood, celery, onion, jalapeno, lime juice, tomato paste and cayenne. Let sit 10-15 minutes for flavors to blend. Add salt, flour, baking powder and enough water to make a stiff batter. Drop by tablespoonfuls in hot oil. Fry till golden. Drain on paper towels and serve with salsa. Serves 8.

**Cranberry Salsa:** 1 c. fresh cranberries; 1 orange, peeled and chopped; rind of 1 orange, grated; 4 tbs. sugar; salt; 2 jalapenos, or to taste, minced; 1/4 c. oil; 1/4 c. minced scallions; 1/4 c. minced cilantro; 1 tbs. minced fresh ginger. Place cranberries in a food processor and whirl till coarsely chopped. Remove to a bowl and add remaining ingredients. Combine and adjust flavors. Chill till ready to serve. Color may darken slightly in refrigerator.

**Tortellini with Asiago Cream Sauce:** 1-1/2 lb. fresh or frozen (not dried) cheese or spinach tortellini, cooked according to manufacturer's directions

**Asiago Cream Sauce:** 2 tbs. butter; 2 tbs. flour; 2 c. milk; 1 c. shredded Asiago cheese (no substitute); salt and freshly ground pepper; 1/4 tsp. freshly ground nutmeg. Make a white sauce: Melt butter and add flour; cook 1-2 minutes; add milk, and cook till thickened. Lower heat and slowly add cheese. Do not boil. Season and serve hot over pasta. Serves 8.

**English Standing Rib Roast:** 6-lb. beef rib roast. Preheat oven to 450-500 degrees. Rub

roast liberally with salt and freshly ground pepper. Roast for 20 minutes in a large baking pan. Reduce temperature to 350 degrees and roast for 15 minutes per pound for rare, 18 minutes per pound for medium rare. Remove from oven and let sit, covered, for 15 minutes before carving. Serves 8.

**English Yorkshire Pudding:** 1 c. flour; 1 c. milk; 1/2 tsp. salt; 2 eggs. Thirty minutes before rib roast is to be served, mix above ingredients until smooth. Heat an 11 x 7 pan in oven (or use large muffin tin). Remove beef and spoon off 2 tbs. drippings into baking pan or add enough melted shortening or oil to measure to 2 tbs. Return beef to oven to continue cooking. Place drippings in heated pan. Pour batter on top. Place in oven and bake 15 minutes. Remove beef and increase oven temperature to 425 degrees. Continue baking pudding till golden, about 20 minutes more. Cut into squares and serve with beef.

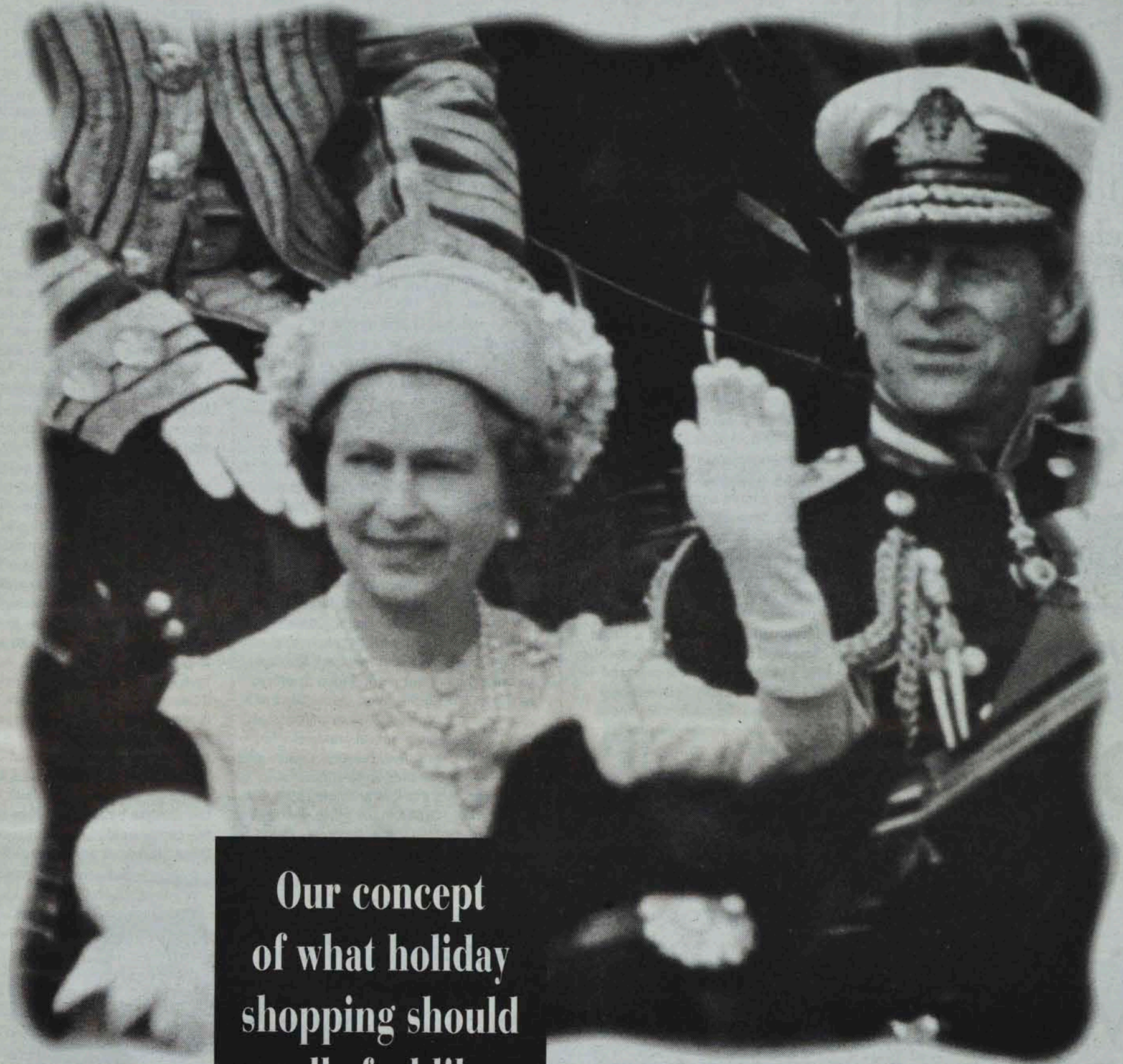
**Eastern European Braised Carrots:** 1/2 c. butter; 16 large carrots, peeled and cut into 1/4-inch rounds; 3/4 c. sliced scallions; 2 tsp. sugar; 1/2 tsp. cayenne pepper; salt and freshly ground pepper; 1/2 c. plain yogurt; 2 tbs. fresh dill, chopped. In a heavy saucepan, melt butter. Add carrots, scallions and sugar. Cover and braise until tender, 5-10 minutes, being careful not to burn them. When done, season with cayenne, salt and pepper. Combine yogurt and dill and stir into carrot mixture. Serve immediately. Serves 8-10.

**Mexican Christmas Eve Salad:** 2 oranges, peeled and cut in chunks; 1 large jicama, peeled and cubed; 2 c. sliced fresh pineapple, in chunks; 1 small head romaine, cut in shreds; 2 firm ripe bananas, sliced; 1/2 c. salted peanuts; 1/4 c. diced, cooked beets; chilled seeds from 1 pomegranate (optional). In a bowl combine oranges, jicama and pineapple. Mix and chill thoroughly. Line a platter with shredded lettuce. Add bananas, peanuts and beets to orange mixture. Toss gently. Place on top of romaine. Garnish with pomegranate seeds. Serves 10.

**Apple Mincemeat Tart Pastry:** 1 1/3 c. flour; 2 tbs. sugar; 6 tbs. butter; 2 tbs. solid shortening; 3/4 tsp. grated lemon rind; 1 egg yolk; 1/4 tsp. salt. Make a well in center of flour. Add sugar and butter (not too hard or soft). Cut into small pieces. Add shortening and cut into small pieces. Add lemon rind, egg yolk and salt. Work quickly with fingertips to make firm, smooth pastry. Dough should form ball and leave the tabletop or bowl fairly clean. Chill pastry for at least 30 minutes before rolling. (Pastry can also be made in a food processor following general pastry-making directions.)

**Filling:** 1 jar prepared mincemeat; 2 apples, grated but not peeled; 1/2 c. chopped walnuts; 1/4 c. brandy; 3 Cortland, Rome Beauty or Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored and thinly sliced sugar; 6 oz. apricot preserves; 2 tbs. fresh lemon juice. Prepare pastry and fit into a 10"-11" tart pan with removable bottom. Chill thoroughly. Combine mincemeat, grated apples, walnuts and brandy. Fill tart shell with this mixture and press down lightly. Cover with apple slices arranged in an overlapping circular pattern. Sprinkle lightly with sugar. Bake at 375 degrees for 30-40 minutes or until apples are soft and beginning to brown. Remove from oven and cool. Place apricot preserves into a small saucepan. Bring to a slow simmer. Add lemon juice, cool slightly and strain, if desired. With a pastry brush, paint apple slices gently with apricots. Let tart set about 30 minutes, before slicing. Serves 12.

Reprint from *Isthmus*



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## Surviving The Office Party

by Mark Leibovich  
Reprint from Boston Phoenix

The memo will be coming any day now. The words "Office Holiday Party" will be splashed across the top, next to a collage of cheery holiday symbols (snow, Santa, and the Star of David will do in most offices). The memo will contain an earnest extension of good holiday wishes. It will give a time and place for the bash, urge responsible drinking, and promise the opportunity "to get to know your colleagues in a non-work setting."

The event will be much-anticipated. After a whole year spent mastering the delicate art of office coexistence, the holiday party represents the chance to break free from the shackles of professional conduct. On the surface, the beauty of the office party is that it's no longer defined by the workplace. The implicit mandate is simple: just relax and have fun, even if it kills you.

But this is a more complicated affair than it would seem. After all, office life has sort of a special, cozy quality about it. We each have a few "office friends," we carve out our own "office space" and we basically cultivate a well-defined "office persona" all year. Throw these finely-developed constructs into a single room, however, break down the prescribed barriers, add booze to the mix, and you get a very odd clash between professional and social dynamics. To move through the morass with dignity intact and emerge with a job on Monday morning can be as challenging as the daily grind.

Underlying weird office-party dynamics is one undeniable fact: quite often, office minions have little in common besides a

copying machine. There is, after all, a reason that your discussions with half the staff rarely get beyond the Tao of Toner. But come the office party, the rules change. This is a one-shot deal, and on this enchanted evening, water-cooler superficiality just won't do. You have time, and are encouraged, to delve beyond the cordial workaday world into the uncharted realm of actual personal relationships. And anything is possible. Like sex.

Indeed, a lot's been written in the wake of the Clarence Thomas-Anita Hill affair about the fine line between flirtation and harassment. The holiday office party, replete with booze and devoid of spouses, can make for a precarious situation; there's no shortage of horror stories about drunken bosses chasing terrified underlings around the buffet table to bear that out.

**Party-goer Rule #1:** Don't cross any boundaries you wouldn't cross in the office. The office party can engender a dangerous pseudo-egalitarianism that, truth be told, doesn't exist in most offices. While you may be sporting the same party hat as your boss (or your employee), while you may share a common social ground, don't forget that this lasts for only a few hours. Come Monday morning, the office totem pole—and protocol—will be firmly back in place. Accordingly, it's not a good idea at office parties to launch into loud discussions of your personal problems, the conditions of your parole, or your sexual fantasies. You can let your hair down, but only so far.

On the other hand, do take note of **Party-goer Rule #2:** it is possible to have a good time. A good many office denizens canvassed for this article genuinely like their office parties. They emphasize that it

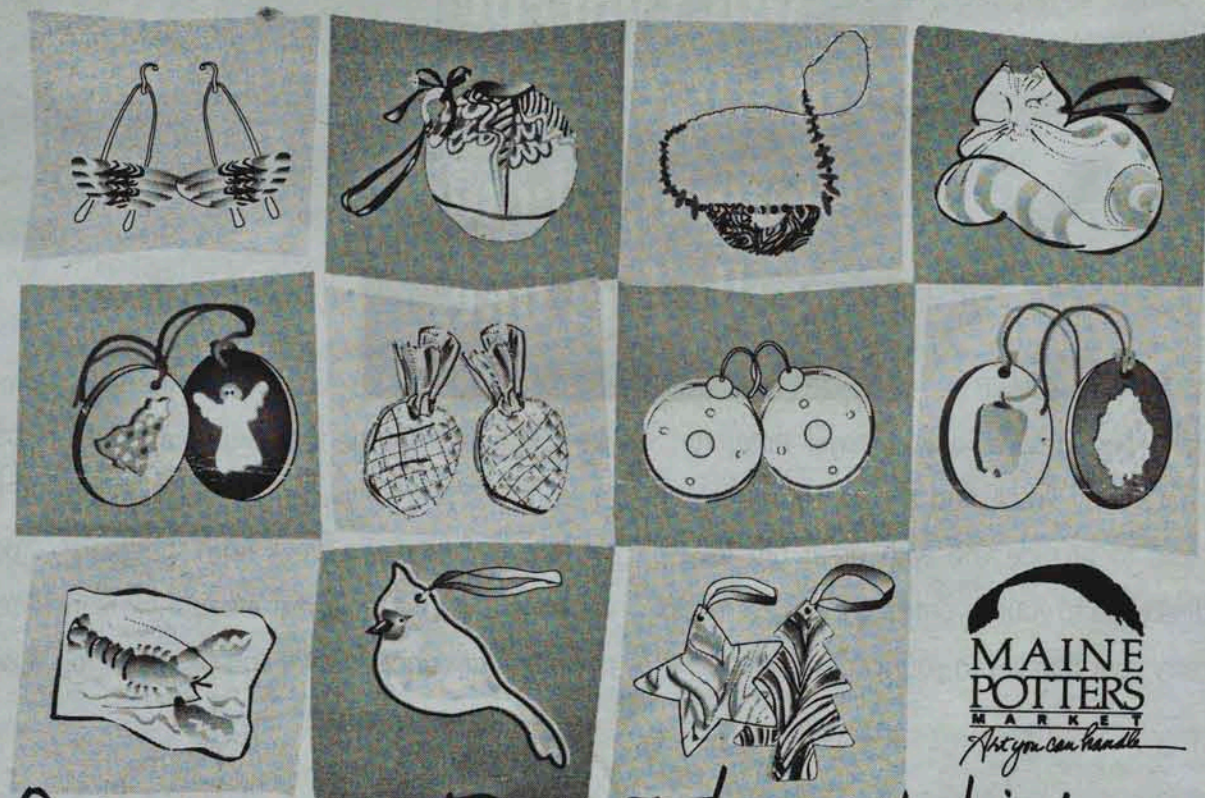
gets easier with time in a given office. And the key to survival, they say, is not to get caught up in the great possibilities of the situation, not to buy into the notion that the rules are any different, and not to forget that everything will return to normal on Monday. *Unless you do something stupid.*

"I will approach it as I do a large family gathering," says one office expert. "I carve out my space, drink a lot, and play not to lose. It's the perfect survival mode."

**Party-goer Rule #3:** be clannish. In other words, abandon the notion that anything is possible. This is not "L.A. Law's" McKenzie-Brackman, after all. You are not Victor Sifuentes, and that most certainly is not Gracie in a Santa outfit. Fall into what's by far the most popular survival M.O.: find your friends, carve out some space near the bar, and talk about—what else—work.

Yes, in an ideal world, governed by the spiritual tenets of personnel managers, office workers would follow their sixth senses, and gravitate naturally to new friends. If there were more than one office party a year, perhaps office denizens would have a greater stake in forging (as opposed to forcing) cross-departmental relationships. But in these situations, people tend to go with what they know, and accordingly, a predictable love affair with the familiar—clumps of department-mates everywhere you look—is played out annually. It may not be quite what personnel had in mind, but cope before you mope.

That, by the way, leads us into a quick memo for management: don't tamper with the delicate balance of office ecology. Let the center hold. Get too aggressive in these situations and you court disaster.



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Consider the experience of a real-life lawyer (not a McKenzie-Brackman lawyer) at his firm's holiday party last year. Three-hundred-odd people were crammed into a hotel function room. Then, a zealous "team builder" instituted a series of closely-monitored games designed to help every party-goer meet and get to know a "new" person. After roughly 60 minutes, the game broke down. Then, just as morale had reached an all-time low, a senior partner led the room in a toast to God, country, and firm.

At that point, a small group in the corner raised a hearty toast to **Party-goer Rule #4**, the most pivotal survival tool of them all: the open bar is your friend. Take comfort in it as you see fit.

## Mistletoe Manners

by Sharon Brody

The winter holiday season always seems like loads of fun, until it's here. From the vantage point of, say, April, December hovers on the distant horizon as a delightful spree of good will and great parties. But proximity sharpens your senses. When the twelfth month finally hits, the holidays loom in your face as the curse that they are: you are staring into a massive minefield of many ways you can offend so many people in so short a time! You could spill punch on your boss at the office party! You could spill the beans to your six-year-old nephew that Santa Claus is a lie! You could insult a Jewish acquaintance by insisting she sing carols with you! You could insult a vegetarian by insisting that he eat a roast goose with you! You could insult your friends by leaving their New Year's Party before midnight! You could neglect to send a thank-you letter to Aunt Eula for the Oral Roberts coaster set!

Ah, but you could also learn to navigate your way through the explosive terrain. First, the season is not as dangerous as you think. Although the opportunities for screwing up are rife during the holidays, people also tend to be in unusually forgiving moods. Just look at everybody's New Year's resolutions—"Forgive and forget" always ranks in the top five.

Second, etiquette is easier than you think. It is not the exclusive domain of Ann Landers, Judith Martin, et al. And it is not some complex code that you will never crack. It is, instead, a simple mandate to behave in a kind, considerate fashion. In the attempt to achieve good manners, you're at least 90 percent of the way there if you make repeated use of these expressions: "Thank you," "Please," "I'm sorry," "No," and "How lovely of you."

**Exhibit A:** "Dear Aunt Eula—How lovely of you to send us a boxed set of Heritage USA potholders..." Aunt Eula will feel so gratified to be deemed "lovely" (which, of course she is, for having remembered you with a gift... and that's what's important) that she will never notice that you haven't stooped so low as to describe the potholders themselves as lovely. Graciousness resides in that murky land between

Lies and the Truth—a territory widely known as tact.

**Exhibit B:** "No, I don't know why you're never seen your daddy and Santy in the same room at the same time." It isn't easy to own up to ignorance when you are not actually ignorant. Our culture places such an enormous value on Being in the Know (which is not to be confused with the deeper concept of Knowledge, as in: Knowledge of Enough Geography to Pinpoint with Stunning Accuracy the Hemisphere in Which the United States Exists) that we are all fairly bursting at the seams with information we feel the need to pass on. But this is the worst thing you can possibly do around holidays. If Cousin Doris asks you whether you know why your brother won't come to her house for Christmas dinner, etiquette requires you to answer "No." Because otherwise you would either have to lie, or explain that Bro has decided he cannot spend another year smiling politely as Cousin Doris shows off every new luxury item she acquired in the past year.

There. Now that you have the hang of it, let's move on to some other potential manner disasters and see if we can't head them off at the pass.

1. Because of your religion or lack thereof, you absolutely do not celebrate Christmas—and you're invited to a tree trimming party. Decline the invitations. Say thank you, but say no. Say you're sorry, but say no. You should never accept an offer to attend a social event they very nature which will make you surly and no fun to be around. If you think that you would be doing your hosts a favor by showing up, think again. They undoubtedly would rather have one less person on hand than have one grump spoiling the spirit of the event.

You have every right to feel perturbed by the dominance of Christian rituals in an allegedly non-sectarian society, but save your wrath for the manger scenes on the courthouse lawns.

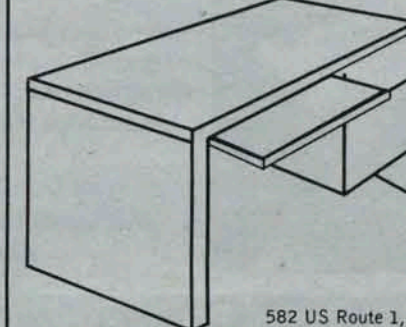
2. You're caught empty-handed when your friend gives you a gift. Say thank you, admire your new treasure, and proceed to the next subject. Don't start blathering on about how your gift for this person is almost ready. It is certainly natural in such a situation to want to prevaricate. However, if you do, you're stuck not only buying something for this person, but also making sure it's something that could have at some point been "not quite ready yet." Ah, what a tangled web we weave, and all that. By engaging in such silly deceptions, you miss the point. The point, of course, is that you're supposed to get joy out of giving and receiving gifts, not out of making sure that everything comes out even. Life is not an accounting ledger—thank goodness.

3. You receive a gift you consider morally inappropriate. Let's say somebody gives you a fur. Okay, let's say they don't, because nobody who knows you well enough to spend that kind of money on you would make such a wrong-headed investment. So let's say somebody gives you a subscription to *Penthouse*, or a Confederate flag windsock...thinking in all innocence that you will find it a hoot. Instead you find it repulsive. What do you

continued on next page

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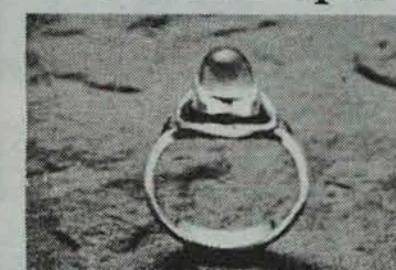
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## ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

## Mistletoe Manners

continued from previous page

do? You accept it. A simple thank you will do; no elaboration is called for. Holidays offer you a great chance to practice being a grown-up; part of the maturation process involves coming to terms with the idea that you have to choose your battles in life. There is no point alienating well-meaning friends and relations by lecturing them on their moral confusion. Note: it is perfectly okay to follow the receipt of such a gift by severing all ties with the bozo who gave it to you. Just be pleasant about it, and you might as well wait until after the holidays.

4. Someone gives your children a gift you don't want them to have. You know the story—Junior, to your horror, gets a toy gun for Chanuka. You don't allow war toys in your home. How to cope? Well, that depends on whether the benefactor is someone who's in a position to keep feeding Junior presents in the future—grandparents, cousins, close family friends, and so forth. If he or she is, then you get to employ all five of the handy etiquette phrases, as in: "How lovely of you to bring something for Junior, and we thank you for the gift. But, no, I'm sorry, we just can't accept it. Please understand—we have a policy against letting Junior play with any toys bearing the NRA seal of approval. I'm afraid it would be confusing to Junior if we started making exceptions.

Now, remember, you are only to take this tack if the bestower is likely to strike again. If this is a one-time deal, then there is really no use to offend geeks bearing gifts. A simple thank you will do. Later, when you have private time with Junior, explain to him in a firm but diplomatic style appropriate to his age level that he can kiss his new "Mega-Blammo!" goodbye because the jerk who gave it to him is a war-mongering sociopath and you don't want any child of yours growing up into such an irresponsible idiot.

5. Someone...Oh, let's say your mother-in-law...insists you hand over to her a wish list of gifts so she knows what to get you, and you are violently opposed to such lists because you feel they take all the spontaneity out of the holidays and ingest an unhealthy dose of materialism. Smile sweetly and say you're sure you'd love anything she chose, and gosh but you enjoy surprises. If she responds with an uncomprehending stare and insists you be more specific, then surrender. Give her a few ideas of things you know it will be easy for her to buy. It won't kill you, and it will make her happy. It may not be how you like to do things, but it's less aggravating than getting a divorce.

6. You don't like social kissing. This is a treacherous season if you aren't fond of eggnog breath in your face and lipstick smears on your cheek. What should you do if you show up at the office party and you're suddenly forced to endure smacks on the lips from colleagues and clients who wouldn't so much as spring for your coffee yesterday? You have only one polite option: try to shake their hands

continued on next page

## ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

## Mistletoe Manners

continued from previous page

before they get within smooching distance. This generally fails, though, because their fingers tend to be clasped around the stem of a wine glass. If you stick your hand out to them, they might think you're trying to take their drink. This doesn't go over too well, since free drinks are about the only thing office parties have to recommend them. So grin and bear it. Let yourself suffer obnoxious false displays of affection. Just stay away from the mistletoe.

7. You are having a traditional Christmas dinner, but you aren't sure if it's appropriate to invite certain people. Such as, for instance, vegetarians and Jews. Some of your close friends fall under these categories. Will they be offended if you invite them to celebrate the holiday the way you always celebrate it—with ham and turkey and Bible stories? Of course they won't be offended. Nor should you be if they politely decline your offer. And you also shouldn't feel flustered if they take you up on it. Etiquette does not require you to dash about making tofu burgers and taking the Christ out of Christmas to accommodate the perceived sensibilities of a few of your guests. When someone accepts an invitation, he accepts it on the terms of the inviter. That means, for example, that you should let the vegetarian know what sort of meal you're planning, so that before he agrees to join you, he can calculate whether he will be able to make do on the 4000 or so calories you will be providing to supplement the animal flesh.

8. You get a better offer. Specifically, it's New Year's Eve. You and your date have ventured among the hoards of people roaming the streets to celebrate the countdown to midnight. You're really, really cold, and your date is laughing at you because you're shivering when it's not even down in the 20s, and he says you look goofy with a red nose. He isn't sharing his hot chocolate with you, after you assumed he bought it for both of you.

You'd hoped this would be a romantic moment, but he won't put his arm around you because he doesn't like wearing gloves, so he needs to keep his hands in his pockets. Suddenly, the attractive single man to your left asks if you'd like to borrow his scarf. One thing leads to another, and Mr. Right asks if you would mind running away with him to a tropical island. Right now.

What should you do? Mind your manners, of course: "Why, no. I wouldn't mind at all. How lovely of you to ask me. Thank you! Please take me, I'm yours. Happy New Year...I'm sorry, what did you say your name was, dear?"

Reprint from *Boston Phoenix*



## The 32 Greatest Songs of Christmas

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- 1) Darlene Love "Christmas (Baby Please Come Home)"
- 2) The Drifters "White Christmas"
- 3) Elvis Presley "Santa Claus Is Back In Town"
- 4) Otis Redding "Merry Christmas Baby"
- 5) Chuck Berry "Run Rudolph Run"
- 6) Amos Milburn "Christmas Comes But Once A Year"
- 7) Donny Hathaway "This Christmas"
- 8) Huey "Piano" Smith and the Clowns "Silent Night"
- 9) James Brown "Go Power At Christmas Time"
- 10) The Youngsters "Christmas In Jail"
- 11) Frank Sinatra "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas"
- 12) The Moonglows "Hey Santa Claus"/"Just A Lonely Christmas"
- 13) Carla Thomas "Gee Whiz, It's Christmas"
- 14) Eartha Kitt "Santa Baby"
- 15) The Martels "Rockin' Santa Claus"
- 16) The Ronettes "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus"
- 17) Darlene Love "Winter Wonderland"
- 18) Charles Brown "Please Come Home For Christmas"
- 19) The King Cole Trio "The Christmas Song"
- 20) Booker T. and the MGs "Silver Bells"
- 21) James Brown "Santa Claus Go Straight To The Ghetto"
- 22) Clarence Carter "Back Door Santa"
- 23) Louis Armstrong "Zat You Santa Claus"
- 24) Solomon Burke "Presents For Christmas"
- 25) Ella Fitzgerald "Santa Claus Got Stuck In My Chimney"
- 26) Nathaniel Mayer and the Fabulous Twilights "Mr. Santa Claus"
- 27) Bruce Springsteen "Santa Claus Is Coming To Town"
- 28) The Sonics "Santa Claus"
- 29) The Jackson Trio "Jingle Bell Hop"
- 30) Jimmy Butler "Trim Your Tree"
- 31) The Rockin' Stockings "Yuletide U.S.A."
- 32) The Orioles "What Are You Doing New Year's Eve"

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**F.A.T.E. Fight AIDS-Transform Education** is a project sponsored by ACT UP/Portland whose purpose is to fight HIV, AIDS and homophobia in all Maine public schools by forming empowering groups for teens and adults. All welcome. Meets the first and third Friday of each month at 5:30 pm at the YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland. Wheelchair accessible.

**Fearful Flyers Group** meets on the first Wed of every month from 5-7 pm at Rm 204 Bailey Hall, USM Campus, Gorham. 780-5012.

**Feminist Spiritual Community** meets every Monday from 7-9 pm at 1837 Forest Ave., Portland. For more information, call 797-9217.

**The Fifth Maine Regiment Community Center** Seashore Ave., Peaks Island. The center is open for visitors Sat and Sun from 11 am-4 pm. 766-3330.

**Fight Discrimination** The Maine Civil Liberties Union is interested in hearing from any Portland resident who feels that she or he has been illegally discriminated against in housing, employment or credit on the basis of sexual orientation. 774-5444.

**Full-time Dads Group** Weekly playgroups for at-home dads and their kids, and occasional dads' night. Call for location and time. 829-5260.

**Fun Pass For Kids** The American Lung Association of Maine offers the Fun Pass, allowing one child 12 and under free admission with the purchase of one adult ticket to 52 attractions in Maine and 63 throughout New England. Available at all Key Banks. To order a Fun Pass, call 1-800-458-6472.

**Garden of Percussion** An evening of experiencing, exploring and expressing the soundscape of spirit with earth. This weekly gathering is to offer a time and space for free expression through rhythm, song, chant, trance, meditation, movement and poetry. Thursdays from 7:30-9:30 pm at the Swedenborgian Church, 302 Stevens Ave., Portland. Hosted by One World Percussion. Cost: \$5. 892-6948.

**Gay & Lesbian Rights Advocates** Womenspace Counseling Center offers an ongoing facilitated support group for those working to support civil rights for gays and lesbians, Thursdays from 7:30-9:30 pm at 236 Park Ave., Portland. 774-2403.

**Gay Men's Chorus** is a volunteer community chorus bringing men together to enhance social tolerance and diversity in the Greater Portland area — as well as affirming the gay/lesbian experience with creative musical entertainment. 839-4506.

**Gene Tracers** The Greater Portland Chapter of the Maine Genealogical Society meets the first Sat of the month at the Cape Elizabeth Fire Station at 1 pm. Anyone interested in investigating their roots is welcome. 883-2546.

**Grandparents Support Group** Grandparents seeking custody or visitation rights meet for support and discussion the last Monday of every month. Meetings are at Burger King in Gorham from 7-9 pm. 772-1161.

**Greater Portland Mothers' Club** meets Tues mornings from 9:30-11:30 am, at 301 Cottage Rd., S. Portland. Cost: \$2 (\$5 family max). 839-6399.

**Groups for people like you** Many kinds of groups are forming at the Swedenborgian Church, groups for folk dancing, book reading, support and worship, fun and study. If you'd like to join one, call and leave your number. 772-8277.

**Home Hair-Care** The Visiting Nurse Service of Southern Maine is offering shampoos, haircuts and permanents to men and women who are confined to their homes. Cost for a simple shampoo/cut is \$20. 284-4566 or 1-800-660-4867.

**Host Families Needed** for 5 Bulgarian teens who are participating in "World Experience," a non-profit, teenage student exchange program. For more information about these students, call Linda Weingart at 1-800-762-2921.

**Humans' Group** Explore what it means to be human and how to make the best of it. Schedule will be set by participants at initial meeting. To join, call the Swedenborgian Church at 772-8277 and leave your name, specify "humans' group."

**Jiu Jitsu** Classes forming now in a martial art used to develop realistic self-defense and promote a sense of well being. 799-5597.

**Jobs With Justice** Seeking individuals to form a Maine chapter of JWW, a national labor, community and religious organization dedicated to fight for the rights of working people. 761-9221 or jfcham@wow.com or bdadd@biddeford.com.

**Karate for Kids and Adults** Yoga, jazzercise and Tai Chi classes at the O-Ki Wellness Center, 14 Maine St., Brunswick. 721-9355.

**Lesbian/Gay Catholics** The organization Dignity/Meine offers supportive masses for lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgendered Catholics and their friends and families. Masses are held every Sun at 6 pm, at St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St.

Portland. Coffee and dessert follow the service. Contact Rosemary or Janet. 646-2820. Or write to: "Dignity/Meine," P.O. Box 8113, Portland, ME 04104-8113. All replies will be confidential.

**Lesbian Social/Discussion Group** meets the 1st & 3rd Thurs of the month in the Club Room of the YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland, from 7-8 pm. \$1 donation. 879-1037.

**Life Relief Support Group** An opportunity to explore and share life experiences will be held Mondays from 1:30-3 pm. Call for location. 879-0816.

**MADD** A new chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Drivers is starting Cumberland County. For more info, call Phyllis McQuaide at 833-6858 or Tanya Stearns at 854-0978.

**Maine Chapbook Award** Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance announces the guidelines for their annual award. The competition alternates each year between fiction and poetry. This year the competition is poetry. For a copy, call 729-6333.

**Maine NOW**, the largest feminist grassroots organization in Maine, fights for reproductive freedom, lesbian/gay rights, ERA, economic justice and to eliminate racism. This all-volunteer political organization has chapters in Brunswick and Portland. For more information, call 797-8508.

**Maine Women's Fund** is a public charitable foundation dedicated to improving the well-being of women and girls in Maine through educational programs, seminars, and grants. For more information, call 774-5513.

**Maine Running Hall of Fame** Seeks nominations for the 1996 honorees. Athletes present and past are invited to present their vitae along with supportive documentation and a cover letter. Please send nominations to Philip S. Pierce, Ph.D., 79 Waites Landing Rd., Falmouth Foreside, ME. 04105-1939. 781-3769.

**Maine Tradeswomen Network** provides education and mentoring for the promotion of women in all trades. 797-4801.

**Men's Group** recently formed in the greater Portland area. Meets every other Tues evening for personal growth, sharing and support. Interested men age 30 and over are welcome. 721-0617.

**MOFGA** Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association supports labeling genetically engineered foods and will provide information to those interested. 622-3118.

**Names Project/AIDS Memorial Quilt** holds a panel-making workshop the first and third Sun of each month. 774-2198.

**Parenting Group** offers a place for parents to share, release and learn from each other. Meets Tuesdays 12:10-1:30 pm. Cost: \$5 per meeting. 871-1000.

**Parkinson Support Group** For those with Parkinson's and their families meets the fourth Sun of the month at the Falmouth Congregational Church, 267 Falmouth Rd., Falmouth, at 2 pm. 829-4070.

**PFLAG** Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays a support and advocacy group meets the second Tuesday of every month from 7-9 pm, at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodford St., Portland. 766-5158.

**Polyamorous Life Support** Are you interested in creating/nourishing loving, multi-partner relationships? Do you love more than one person? Call to join a support group just for you. 773-6132.

**Portland Parks and Recreation's Aquatic Division** holds open swims Sundays from 4-6 pm at the Riverton Pool, 1600 Forest Ave., Portland. 874-8456.

**Preble Street Resource Center** 252 Oxford St., Portland offers community programs for the public. Mon: Art group from 10-11 am. Video discussion from 12:30-2 pm. Wed: Writers' group from 10-11 am. Fri: Community meeting from 10-11 am. Cooking group from 11am-noon. 874-6560.

**Puppy Raisers Wanted** The New England Assistance Dog Service seeks puppy raisers to open their homes to foster puppies in the assistance program. The organization trains and provides dogs to physically disabled people. 934-1963.

**Res Publica** if you're in your mid- to late 20s and just out of school, then you know that meeting new people can be tough. Luckily, a social group is forming just for you. To find out more about it, call 774-0915.

**Riding to the Top** Broadview Rd., Scarborough — a therapeutic horseback riding program for people with disabilities seeks volunteers. Horse experience is not necessary. 883-4171.

**Self Esteem Group** Feel better about yourself. Changing Perspectives, at 2 Custom House Wharf, Portland, holds ongoing self-esteem support groups, Tuesdays from 10-11:30 am and 6:30-8 pm. 879-0816. **CW**

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**ADOPT** - We know that you are faced with a difficult choice. Let us help you find a loving, caring home for your baby. We Are Easy To Talk To! Please call **FRIENDS IN ADOPTION** 1-800-844-3630. (A VERMONT LICENSED AGENCY).

**CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAY PARTIES** - 30 minute show with live doves, rabbits, fire magic tricks. Call Vandini, The Children's Magician, 854-1743/1-800-826-8240.

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## HELP WANTED

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Large national corporation since 1924 is expanding in the Portland area. Plan new store openings in the next 12 months, quality individuals needed for assistant management training program. Positions available include:  
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No experience necessary. Professional training provided. Must be **AVAILABLE TO START IMMEDIATELY**. Train in Portland, call 207-871-8618 for personal interview, or send resume to PETER HART, PO BOX 6527 PORTLAND, MAINE, 04102-0217 EOE

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Seeking people who share our passion for:  
• great coffee  
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If you have previous food service experience and are a team player who can help our business grow, please stop by the coffeehouse for an application. Coffee By Design 620 Congress St., Portland

**DISH-PERSON NEEDED** New Restaurant on Congress St. needs steady full-time or part-time dish help. Reasonable hours, good pay. Apply at 555 Congress St. Ask for DAVID.

**INTERNET REPS NEEDED!** Sell 1st box to access internet the T.V. No experience or computer required. We train. 800-401-0619

**DEADLINE:** Mon., 3pm pre-paid  
Phone: 775-1234 or 1-800-286-6601  
FAX: 775-1615  
Mail: Classifieds  
P.O. Box 1238  
Portland, ME 04104  
Hand: 561 Congress St.

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**Johnston Career Services**  
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Call Ernie Johnston  
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**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**  
\$1000'S POSSIBLE READING BOOKS. Part time. At home. Toll free 1-800-219-9000 ext. R-5496 for listings.

**AWESOME FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY!** Help out your favorite group with customized pre-paid phone cards. Call 839-4316.

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY:** No training, up to \$30,000-\$38,000/year, part time. For more information call 874-0883, ask for Anna.

**EARN UP TO \$570 WEEKLY!** Make jewelry, year around, at home. No experience needed. S.A.S.E. to: STACEY CRAFT, 11470 Euclid Ave., Suite 503, Ext.3883, Cleveland, Ohio 44106.

# BUSINESS SERVICES

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Let us take the worry and legwork out of your residential or commercial property. We offer **COMPLETE** Property Management service including:

- 24hr emergency service • Fully Qualified Maint. Staff
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Improve your cash flow by letting a professional handle all aspects of managing your property.

We accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover and Diners Club  
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"VIRTUAL WORKERS IN A PHYSICAL WORLD"  
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Repairs • Restorations  
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## BATES COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

### ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ANNUAL GIVING

Bates College seeks a dynamic, people-oriented, organized person to serve as Assistant Director of Annual Giving, an entry-level position in the Annual Giving Office. Reporting to the Director of Annual Giving and Special Gifts, the Assistant Director manages all aspects of a comprehensive Young Alumni giving program for the nine most-recently graduated classes, and all fundraising aspects for the 5th and 10th Reunion classes, including leadership solicitation, volunteer support, coordination of direct mail and appropriate stewardship; manages all aspects of an on-campus student career program, including the hiring and training of workers and management of a student supervisor, as well as analysis of results; works with the Vice President for Development and Alumni Affairs on the Senior Gift Program, which solicits gifts from the Senior Class.

The successful candidate must possess excellent organizational, writing, and communications skills, must have attention to detail, computer skills and the ability to handle multiple projects while still meeting firm deadlines. Initiative, the ability to be flexible and to work in a team environment is highly valued. A Bachelor's degree is required.

Review of applications will begin on December 20, 1996. Please send a cover letter, resume and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of three references to:

Assistant Director of Annual Giving Search Committee  
Bates College  
Personnel Office  
215 College Street  
Lewiston, Maine 04240

Bates College values a diverse college community and seeks to assure equal opportunity through a continuing and effective Affirmative Action program.

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**FULL-TIME TEACHING POSITION TO BEGIN MID-JANUARY 1997**  
PEAKS ISLAND CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER, a year round community oriented, developmental child care program serving children 3-10 in an age integrated setting, has a full-time opening for a Child Care Person II. Applicants should have a strong developmental background and successful early childhood experience. Resumes must be received before 4:30 PM on 12-6-96.

We offer a competitive salary and an excellent benefits package! Please send resumes and cover letters indicating which position you are interested in to:

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P.O. Box 10660  
Portland, ME 04104  
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Catholic Charities Maine is a United Way and a City of Portland Community Development Assisted Agency and an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

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DEERING HIGH AREA, M/F \$275/mo. + 1/3 utilities, W/D, off-street parking. Must like dogs. 780-1952.

**MALE SEEKING** male to share house. 35 minutes from Portland. Completely furnished. \$200/mo. Box-stall for rent also. 787-3345.

**MAINLY ROOMMATES.** Call for recorded message. No obligation, no fee. (207) 885-5167 ext. 8. 24 hours.

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**An Alternative for Teenagers That Works**  
Individual Basketball Coaching & Therapy  
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## INSTRUCTION

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WE PRINT ON EVERYTHING!  
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HOUSECLEANING/PARLORCE. Efficient, reliable, reasonable rates. 12 years experience. References. Free estimates. 207-741-2010.

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Pre-paid phone cards, 30 minute cards \$9.95, 10 minute greeting cards \$6.95. Call Brett. 839-4316.

T-SHIRTS CUSTOM PRINTED. \$3.50 from Fruit of the Loom. Hats. \$2.75, mugs and more. Full line of embroidery. Free color catalog 1-800-242-2374. Berg Enterprises. 40.

WOMEN'S WET SUITS, surfboards and bodyboards. Moose County Music. 761-8084.

**ARTS & CRAFTS**  
SERIOUS CRAFTERS & MANUFACTURERS WANTED for Maine's largest crafter outlet. Space available from \$10.00 to \$300.00/month for 12x12 room. Call Sue 453-8088.

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SUGARLOAF OFF MOUNTAIN RIVER FRONT INN BED & BREAKFAST. 8 bedrooms. Full service available, rates start at \$45/2 including breakfast. Contact Theresa for details (207)265-2552.

TWO PEUGEOT WAGONS. '87 Auto. '85 5-speed, both clean and strong. \$2800, \$2200 NICE! 781-4019.

VOLKSWAGON BUS 1959 Westfalla camping box. "The oldest, rarest, running splitly in Maine!" \$2,600 781-4019 797-9772.

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1992 TOYOTA PICKUP, 47K, anti-theft device, excellent condition. N.A.D.A. book value \$7800. Asking \$6,500/BO. 761-1622.

DODGE HIGH TOP MARK III CONVERSION VAN, 1990. 60K miles, TV, VCR, loaded. Estate sale. 13,800/B.O. 767-2247 or 883-2179.

F150 PICKUP, 1993. Extended cab, rear bench seat, automatic. Excellent condition. \$10,900. (207)767-7521.

GMC CONVERSION VAN, 1985. 20K on new engine, 70K original miles. Clean, solid. \$5,200. 774-0790.

GMC SMALL SCHOOL BUS, 1979. Wheelchair lift, 58K miles, runs. \$2,000/B.O. Call 761-2465 or 428-3932.

SAFARI (GMC) VAN 1994. 8 passenger, all extras, extended warranty 6yrs./100K. \$17,800/B.O. 829-4537.

ARTIC CAT EXT-ERI 1995. 2500 miles, 580cc. \$4,000. (207)646-2756.

**BOATS**  
16' DAYSAVER W/ALY, TRAILER. Excellent condition. Yellow. Fiberglass. Cuddy cabin sleeps 2. Roomy cockpit. \$2,800. 799-4305.

18' CATBOAT, 73 HERSCHOFF AMERICA (Novak/Williams), '91, 15hp. Mercury (low hours). Flag Sails(2), galvanized trailer. Excellent condition! \$6,500. (508)752-3414.

19' LIGHTENING CLASS SAILBOAT. Classic, mahogany, Sails and new trailer. \$1300. 846-8323.

19' O'DAY MARINER DAYSAILOR with four sails, 6 hp Johnson 0B, dinghy and trailer. Includes anchor, lines, PFD's, sailcover. Will sleep four, \$3,500; call before 10pm. 767-3634.

21' 1991 EASTPORTER 150 HP Evinrude, cabin, quarter bunks, 10,900/B.O. 207-853-5113.

29' COLUMBIA SLOOP, full keel, flush deck, Atomic 4 rebuilt, knot radar, auto-pilot, inflatable. B.O. 623-4830.

31' PACEMAKER, SPORTFISHERMAN, 1966. Recent '88, 3rd owner. \$5,300. (207)48-0929.

BAYLINER 18', 1990. 90HP, with galvanized trailer. Excellent condition, many extras. \$6,000/B.O. 797-2628.

BAYLINER 24'. Volvo in/out, List \$10,500, sell for \$3,000/trade. Excellent condition boat. Moored, East End Beach. 773-0660.

**PUBLICATIONS**  
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HONDA ACCORD EX, 1991. Immaculate inside and out. \$8,000. Call 892-5118 from 10am to 5pm.

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CADILLAC SEVILLE. 1978. A classic, almost antique. New engine & paint. Asking \$3,399. 799-5908.

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## WOMEN & MEN

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**ADVENTUROUS PROFESSIONAL.** beautiful inside and out. SWF, 31, 5'9", athletic, slender, outdoor enthusiast, well-educated and traveled. Seeking 30-40yo, emotionally, financially secure, attractive man. 29548 (12/25)

**ALL DOWNHILL FROM HERE?** Fit, outgoing skater, 33yo, naturalist/seeker, 32-40, S/D/M to get out and play in the winter! Love to travel, dancing, dining, travel, adventure, books. Upper Mid-coast. 295408 (12/25)

**ANTENNAS OUT FOR MUSICAL.** upbeat, somewhat vivacious-independent folks in reach of Jackson or Orono. I am building the puzzle to fit the pieces. Wow! You? I'm strong, BGR, creative, busy, noted, inspired, 31yo, 295415 (12/25)

**KEEP A TWINKLE IN MY EYES.** Bright, petite SWF, 43, seeks one nice guy, N/S. We enjoy outdoors, arts, travel, cozy home life. Value good heart, intelligent conversation, SOH, independence, simple pleasures. Dog lover gets bonus points. 29539 (1/1)

## WOMEN & MEN

**ARE YOU STRONG ENOUGH TO MY MAN?** Forty-something, free-spirited, woman who is intelligent, educated, wise, funny, tall, handsome, easy-going, generous, brave, financially, physically, and emotionally fit with good sense of humor for fun and romance. Love to dance, music, movies, travel, and good books, long hair and recovery all please. N/D, N/S. 295426 (12/25)

**ARE YOU TIRED OF HEAD GAMES?** SWF, 36, 5'9", lg build, enjoys dining out, dancing, movies, music, roller skating, walks and sports. Desires S/D/M, 28-45, for friendship/relationship. 295515 (1/1)

**ATTRACTIVE, YOUNG 37YO.** I love to dance, travel the world, ski, have fun, eat good food. Looking for someone who's responsible, open, and fun. 295435 (12/25)

**BIG BONED GAL.** Grown in the Midwest. Looking for some fun and good times, Maine style. Want to be my tour guide? Me: 5'10", 37, BR/BL. You: Tall, cuddly, and most definitely fun! 29572 (1/8)

**CLASSY, ABOVE AVERAGE.** very attractive, charming DWF, very young 50, 5'3", 115lbs, seeks DWM, 50-65, for friendship, interests: Tennis, golf, sailing, theatre, opera, antiques, and dining out. 295332 (12/18)

**CREATIVE, AWARE WOMAN** seeks man from Venus to share great ideas, meals, music, films, conversation. Be healthy, earth conscious, open, compassionate and preferably 40-60 yrs old. 295344 (12/18)

**ELLSWORTH-DOWNEAST AREA.** Anticipating adventures with 50+ man, semi-mature mind, semi-youthful body, SOH about the rest. N/S, active lifestyle, warm, intelligent nature could lead to fun times with active, outdoors woman with independent nature. 29541 (1/1)

**EVE SEES ADAM FOR APPLE** harvest and discussion of snake phobia. Free spirit, attractive, 37yo, educated, assertive artist, loves dancing, Afro-Caribbean and Latin music. Romantic evenings. Seeks independent, 35+, 5'9", with ethical, conscious mind, very fit body, and spontaneous, crazy SOH. Must live and love to the limit. Be as open to giving as receiving as a friend and playmate. Race unimportant. Activists, musicians, self-employed preferred. 29542 (1/1)

**FULL-BODIED AS IN A VINATGE PORT.** The Botticelli Venus has nothing on me. Seeks articulate, savvy, sensual, sensitive, sometimes naughty, sometimes nice, gainfully employed man. SOH a must. Who are you? 29551 (12/18)

**HAPPY WOMAN, DWP, 38.** seeks happy man, S/DWP, 38-45ish. Kind, smart, independent, active, seeks same (a mensch a plus). Books, hikes, travel, the company of good friends. N/S, Portland area. 295342 (12/18)

**HOME ALONE, TOO?** You're single and kind, you're tall and intelligent and 45ish. My friends don't know you, otherwise they would have introduced us! Let's connect for a healthy relationship. 29562 (1/8)

**IN QUEST OF GENTLEMAN** for sharing life's wonder and beauty. I am attractive, slender, young 40's, many interests. 29525 (1/1)

**PETITE MOTHER** seeks S/D, 30's-early 40's. Honest, loyal, easygoing nice guy, 2nd, 3rd shift okay. Diners, movies, rides, kids, home life, family. Portland area. 29564 (1/8)

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**NOT A PARTY ANIMAL.** DWF, 45, 5'4", fit, attractive, bright. Enjoy gardening, XC skiing. Outrageously busy but, could make some time for an amiable, intelligent man. 29563 (1/8)

**NUDE DANCER +OR HUSBAND.** DWF, 37, long light BR/greenish, 145#, 5', spunky/shy, painfully employed, creative. N/S, N/D, enjoy home life, kids, travel. Who you be... than looks. 29534 (1/1) Personal Advertiser 8645, P.O. Box 1238, Portland, ME 04104

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**SEEKING DANCE PARTNER.** Petite, professional SWF, 50th, with auburn hair, SOH, ballroom dance partner who has patience with a beginner, to share fun, relaxation, and perhaps more. Bangor area. 29543 (12/25)

**SWF 50yo** seeks S/D, 30's-early 40's. Honest, loyal, easygoing nice guy, 2nd, 3rd shift okay. Diners, movies, rides, kids, home life, family. Portland area. 29564 (1/8)

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**RETIRED AND LIVING IN SOUTHERN ME.** 60th, BR/BL, enjoy dining in and out, dancing, quiet evenings, Sunday rides, and good conversation. Hoping to find a gentleman, 40-60, who doesn't drink, smoke, or do drugs. (Maybe a little Gentol once in a while. If you think we're a match, let's get together. 29567 (1/1) Personal Advertiser 8649, P.O. Box 1238, Portland, ME 04104

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## MEN & WOMEN

**ATTENTIVE ADVENTUROUS.** tall, dark, handsome DWM, 30, dark hair, green eyes, N/S, Outdoors, well-educated and traveled. Seeking 28-40yo, emotionally secure, communicative, outgoing, attractive lady with a passion for life and a desire to connect with the right man. 29575 (1/8)

**CLASSIC 1983.** Small sporty model, cool on the outside, hot under the hood, seeking country girl driver. She needs to be attractive and have a big heart. Drivers should be able to navigate romantic drives and dancing under the stars. 24-40, attractive, slim, good shape, dimpled grin. Seeking a pretty woman, 20's-30's, who could eventually become a best friend, passionate lover, and partner in pursuing dreams. Intelligence and integrity a must. Long hair and/or busy figure a plus. 29543 (1/1)

**DEAR IRISH ROSE.** Would you care to meet an oldish potato, 61, with pink skin, rugged shape, and durable qualities? You can plant me in the spring, cultivate me in the summer, harvest me in the fall, and store me in the cellar for winter. 29566 (1/1) Personal Advertiser 8643, P.O. Box 1238, Portland, ME 04104

**DWM, 35, SEEKING TO BUILD** relationship with SWF, nice unimportant, age 20-30, like sports, movies, dining in or out. Definitely worth the call. 29526 (1/1)

**DWM, 38, BLONDE,** 140, fit, firm, clean, attractive. Seeks discreet S/D lady, 20-40, same qualities, to share an A.M. passion, pleasure, ultimate satisfaction that we've only dreamed of. No strings. 29573 (1/8)

**EDUCATED FEMALE WANTED.** SWM, 20, looking for woman, 20-35, to share life with. I'm outgoing and very lovable. Not much money but, a respect for feelings. 29561 (1/8)

**FRIENDSHIP, POSSIBLE LTR.** SAPM, 23, medium built, athletic, strong values, seeks honest, sensitive S/D, 18-27, WPTH, who enjoys music, movies, dining out, nature, spending times together. Kids OK. 29511 (1/1)

**ITALIAN STALLION SEES FILLY.** SWM, fit, 48, N/S, no drugs, light driver, seeks friend, playmate, and pal for dinner, dancing, theater, travel, ocean, Boston, romance, and more. Any breed. 29566 (1/8)

**UNIQUE DWM, 44,** handsome, sensual, fair, and fit. L/L BR/BL, seeks same in S/DWP, 35-45, for simple companionship and relaxed pleasures open to LTR. Extraordinary attention given to any guy who enjoys skiing, tennis, swimming, children, the arts, making a home together, dancing, intimate times and grand laughing of it all. Southern Maine. 29580 (1/8)

**VERY ATTRACTIVE DWM, PORTLAND.** Zero flirting skills, so I'll try the personals. 42, 6', 195lbs, soft BR/kind BL, no bad habits, easy-going with deep integrity and phenomenal SOH, warmly affectionate, delightfully playful, deeply sensual. I value honesty, compassion and patience. I notice the good in people and accept them for themselves. I am a very passionate and exciting lover but, I feel that deeply fulfilling closeness blossoms with listening, trust, affection. I am one of the remaining good-natured guys with a kind heart who can talk about his feelings and appreciate yours. I enjoy sports, kisses, warm conversation, mountain tops, movies, world music, guitar, passion and tenderness, foreign travel, wilderness camping/canoeing, peaches, hot sauces, thunder and lightning, skinny dipping, stars, ethnic foods, 3rd world cultures, wind, laughter, animals, cuddling, rain... I'd like to meet a reasonably attractive, fairly intelligent woman of any age who enjoys, spice, affection, truth. Prefer first contact by P.O. Box. Your letter/photo gets mine. Friends first. 29529 (1/1) Personal Advertiser 8644, P.O. Box 1238, Portland, ME 04104

**WORKING-STIFF.** Nice guy-weird hours. SWM, attractive, trim, 37, good SOH, enjoys many domestic, natural activities, movies, music. Thinking: There's got to be more. Values quiet, simplicity, sincerity, communication. Seeking trim, attractive woman with flexible hours for dining, casual dating, possible LTR. Portland area. 29537 (1/8)

**YOUNG, ENJOYS MANY DOMESTIC, NATURAL ACTIVITIES,** movies, music. Thinking: There's got to be more. Values quiet, simplicity, sincerity, communication. Seeking trim, attractive woman with flexible hours for dining, casual dating, possible LTR. Portland area. 29537 (1/8)

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